

# **APPROVED PROVIDERS AS OF MARCH 24, 2020**

## **PIERCE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT MANDATORY PARENTING SEMINARS**

Effective immediately, and only for a temporary period in line with the Washington Supreme Court's Chief Justice's Public Health Emergency Amended Order #25700-B-607 and other Pierce County Superior Court Emergency Orders, all parties required to complete an Impact on Children Seminar may complete an online seminar in lieu of personally attending one of Pierce County's approved seminar providers. This emergency rule amends PCLSPR 94.05 and the Administrative Policy re Impact on Children Seminar. Fees up to \$60.00, but a sliding fee scale is available, depending on need.

Only online seminars hosted by a Pierce County seminar provider are approved, unless a special waiver is granted by a Pierce County Superior Court judicial officer. Note: not all of the approved providers have online programs in place at the present time.

Below are the approved mandatory parenting seminar programs:

### What Children of Divorce Really Need

Harbor Wellness

**Online Seminar Available**

Spanish Literature available

**Cost:** up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

**REGISTER** - Call (253) 851-5450

[www.harborwellness.org](http://www.harborwellness.org)

### Don't Forget the Kids

Institute for Children's Advocacy

**Online Seminar Available**

**Cost:** up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

**REGISTER** - Call (253) 228-2100

[www.instituteforchildrensadvocacy.info](http://www.instituteforchildrensadvocacy.info)

### Consider the Children

Family Education and Support

**Online Seminar Available**

Spanish interpreters and material available

**Cost:** up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

**REGISTER** - Call Toll Free (1-877) 813-2828 OR email

[Shelly@FamilyESS.org](mailto:Shelly@FamilyESS.org)

### Always Parents: Families in Transition

**Online Seminar Available**

**Cost:** up to \$60/person; a sliding fee scale is available

Spanish Interpreter/materials available

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.alwaysparents.com](http://www.alwaysparents.com)

Call (253) 267-3622

### Crossroads of Parenting and Divorce

Army Family Advocacy Program

**Online Seminar Available**

**Population Served:** Active duty service members and their spouses. 20 year retirees and their spouses.

**Cost:** Free

More Info/Register: (253) 966-7180

### The Children Come First

Confidential Associates

**Not offering an online seminar at this time**

### Impact of Divorce on Children

HopeSparks

**Not offering an online seminar at this time**

## **Third Party Custody Cases**

Impact of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Custody on Children

HopeSparks

**Not offering an online seminar at this time**

## PCLSPR 94.05 \MANDATORY SEMINARS - IMPACT ON CHILDREN

Pierce County Superior Court finds that it is in the best interest of any child whose parents or custodians are involved in Family Law proceedings to provide such parties with an educational workshop concerning the impact family restructuring has on a child. The workshop offers parties tools to help ensure that a child's emotional needs will not be overlooked during the legal processes, to encourage parties to agree on child-related matters, and to aid in maximizing the use of court time.

**(a) Applicable Cases.** This rule shall apply to all cases filed under Ch. 26.09, Ch. 26.10, or Ch. 26.26 RCW which require a parenting plan or residential schedule for minor children. This rule does not apply to modification cases based solely upon relocation.

**(b) Mandatory Attendance.** In all cases governed by this rule, all parties shall complete an approved parenting seminar. Each party shall attach a copy of the Certificate of Completion to the final parenting plan. Standards for parenting seminars shall be established by the court and providers shall be approved by the court. The court may approve a seminar upon a showing of functional equivalency regarding course content and instructor qualifications. In no case shall opposing parties be required to attend a seminar together.

**(c) Timing.** Parties required by this rule to participate in a parenting seminar shall complete an approved parenting seminar within 60 days after service of the petition or motion initiating the action which is subject to this rule. In the case of paternity actions initiated by the prosecuting attorney's office, the parenting seminar shall be required only when paternity is established or acknowledged and a residential schedule is requested.

**(d) Fees.** Each party attending a seminar shall pay a fee charged by the approved providers and sanctioned by the court. The court or an approved provider may waive the fee for indigent parties.

**(e) Seminar Content/Instructor Qualifications.** The Impact on Children Seminar shall provide information concerning the impact family restructuring has on children. Superior Court (or a committee designated by the Judges) shall adopt guidelines governing the content of the seminar, the number of approved providers and the minimum credentials and experience required of seminar instructors. The provider shall e-file each attendee's Certificate of Completion with the court. The provider shall give each attendee a Certificate of Completion.

**(f) Waiver.** The court may waive the seminar requirement for good cause shown.

**(g) Failure to Comply.** Willful refusal to participate in a parenting seminar or willful delay in completion of a parenting seminar by any party may constitute contempt of court and result in sanctions, including, but not limited to, imposition of monetary terms, striking of pleadings or denial of affirmative parenting plan relief, to a party not in compliance with this rule. Non-participation, or default, by one party does not excuse participation by the other.

**(h) Administrative Policy.** Pierce County Superior Court's current Administrative Policy re: Impact on Children Seminar is set forth in Part VI, Administrative Policies. It may also be found at:

[www.co.pierce.wa.us/superiorcourt](http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/superiorcourt) and by clicking on "Local Rules."

[Amended effective September 1, 2010]