



Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a Volunteer Community Mediator. Volunteer mediators help people in our community move through difficult and stressful conflict by having productive conversations that put relationships first. Each year, Volunteer Community Mediators facilitate conversations between hundreds of people in our community. When conflict is resolved peacefully, we all have a safer and more peaceful community.

The process of becoming a volunteer mediator is selective and includes:

- Completing the attached application
- Participating in an interview with the program manager prior to training

If selected:

- Successfully completing a 32 hour Community Mediation Training
- Completing a 4 hour Volunteer Orientation Session
- Attendance at quarterly in-service training
- A commitment to volunteer as a mediator at least twice a month for 2 years.

If you haven't already, please e-mail me at [coreyh@mediatewnc.org](mailto:coreyh@mediatewnc.org) to ensure that we have volunteer positions available in your county before completing the attached application.

We are committed to providing professional, ethical, and effective mediation services. There are many opportunities to practice mediation skills during the training, and we will give you lots of feedback and support. In order to serve as a volunteer, training participants must be able to demonstrate key mediation skills by the conclusion of the 32-hour training. If you or the trainer are concerned about your ability to apply skills at the beginner mediator level, we'll sit down with you and talk through it. Sometimes, the outcome of this conversation is that you won't be able to volunteer as a mediator. In this case, we will work with you to identify alternate volunteer opportunities within the organization or the community.

We are dedicated to increasing the diversity of our volunteer mediator pool. Based on the current make-up of our mediator roster, we give priority to the following groups:

- People of color
- Young adults (under 45), minimum age is 18.
- Low-income residents
- Members of the LGBT community
- People without a college degree
- Those who live in public or section-8 housing
- People who are formerly incarcerated
- People who are from rural areas of Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania and Polk Counties
- Those who are fluent in both English and Spanish



The Mediation Center  
Finding common ground.

There are no educational or professional requirements to become a mediator. While we do a criminal background check on accepted volunteers, having a prior conviction does not automatically exclude you from volunteering and may be a helpful perspective.

We invite you review the Frequently Asked Questions about our Community Mediation Training on our website at <http://mediatewnc.org/community-mediation-training-faq/>.

Please complete the application (below) and return via email to [coreyh@mediatewnc.org](mailto:coreyh@mediatewnc.org) no later than 14 days prior to the start of training. We will inform you of the decision no later than 10 days prior to the start of training.

Sincerely,

Corey Hinson  
Program Manager  
The Mediation Center  
[coreyh@mediatewnc.org](mailto:coreyh@mediatewnc.org)



## Volunteer Mediator Application

### Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please answer the following questions.

___yes ___no *	Are you available to attend the entire 32-hour training?
___yes ___no *	Are you willing to attend an additional 4-hour volunteer orientation session?
___yes ___no *	Are you available to commit to at least 2 appointments per month and to hold those times on your calendar? (Monday through Thursday, 10am, 2pm, or 6pm)
___yes ___no *	Are you committed to attending 4 in-service trainings per year as long as you remain a volunteer?
___yes ___no *	Do you check your e-mail regularly?
___yes ___no *	If you have previously been trained as a mediator, are you willing to learn a different way of mediating?
___yes ___no *	Are you willing to learn how to mediate without giving advice, making suggestions, or sharing your experiences or expertise?

*\* If you are unable to answer "yes" to all questions, please e-mail us before completing the rest of the application.*



1. What is the date of the Community Mediation Training you'd like to attend?
2. Please describe why you would like to be a Volunteer Mediator.
3. Tell us about your background and how you would add diversity to our mediator roster.
4. Tell us about skills you would bring to being a volunteer mediator.
5. Are there any topics or issues that you would feel uncomfortable discussing in mediation?
6. Is there other information you'd like for us to consider?