

PARENTING SEMINAR INFORMATION

The only class available in Island County that satisfies the Parenting Seminar requirement is:

“Helping Children Through Divorce”

Sign up for this seminar by calling (360) 279-9222 or (360) 341-1955

(Island County does not accept certifications from online parenting seminars without prior approval from the Court.)

PART II

LOCAL / SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS RULES (SPR)

ISLAND COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Effective September 1, 2012

SPR 94.04. FAMILY LAW RULES

- (e) **Parenting Seminars.** This rule shall apply to all cases in which the court is being asked to enter a parenting plan for minor children.
- (1) ***Mandatory Attendance.*** Unless waived as provided herein, within 30 days of filing an appearance, answer or other responsive pleading in an action involving a parenting plan for minor children, both parties shall register for a court-approved parent education seminar on the effects of family transitions on children, unless the parties have previously attended such a course within the last three years. Each party shall attend the seminar within 60 days of registering.
 - (2) ***Certificate of Completion.*** Upon completion of the seminar, each party shall file with the court the seminar completion certificate provided by the sponsoring agency or provider. Additionally, a copy of the certificate of completion shall be provided to the judge at presentation of final documents.
 - (3) ***Fees.*** Each party attending a seminar shall pay a fee charged by the approved provider and authorized by the court.

- (4) **Seminar Providers.** The court shall establish standards for parenting seminars and shall approve seminar providers. A list of approved parenting seminars shall be available from the court administrator, juvenile court administrator, or county clerk. If a parenting seminar is not included on the list, then the court, upon proper motion, may allow other seminar providers to fulfill this requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- (5) **Waiver and Special Consideration.**
- (A) **Opposing Parties.** In no case shall opposing parties be required to attend a seminar together.
- (B) **Domestic Violence or Abuse.** Upon a showing of domestic violence or abuse which would not require mutual decision-making pursuant to RCW 26.09.191, or if the court determines that attendance at a seminar is not in the children's best interest pursuant to Ch. 26.12 RCW, the court shall either waive the requirement of completion of the seminar or allow participation in an alternative parenting seminar if available.
- (C) **Proposed Parenting Plan Required.** Within 14 days of completing the parenting seminar as described above, each parent shall provide the other parent with a Proposed Parenting Plan, if they have not already done so.
- (D) **Willful Refusal.** Willful refusal to participate in a parenting seminar or willful delay in completing a court-ordered parenting seminar may result in a finding of contempt and imposition of sanctions. (See Order to Show Cause Re: Parenting Class in the Forms Appendix H.)