

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be met as conditions of membership in the Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice Group (Interdisciplinary Group).

All Members:

1. Successful completion of first level (2-day) of Collaborative Family Law training provided by the Collaborative Law Institute of Texas, Inc. (CLI-TX) or comparable training by other training providers approved by the Interdisciplinary Group.
2. Written agreement to practice according to the expectations of the Interdisciplinary Group and the Protocols of Practice for Collaborative Family Lawyers promulgated by CLI-TX.
3. Be sponsored by at least one member of the Interdisciplinary Group. The sponsor must be a current member of the Interdisciplinary Group, have the same profession as the prospective new member, and be willing to recommend to the Interdisciplinary Group the prospective new member for membership.
4. Be a member of the CLI-TX and the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP).
5. Commit to participating in at least three (3) collaborative law cases within the first year of membership, at least one of which must involve another member of the Interdisciplinary Group.
6. Be committed to using the interdisciplinary team model.
7. Attend at least ten of the twelve annual Interdisciplinary Group monthly meetings. If a member misses more than 2 meetings per calendar year, the member will be required to make a \$50.00 contribution to Interdisciplinary Group for each absence, regardless of the reason for the absence.
8. Approval of an individual's membership application by more than ninety (90%) of Interdisciplinary Group members. The procedure for voting on applicants is as follows:
 - a. The member sponsoring a prospective member or approached by the prospective member regarding membership shall submit the person's name to the membership committee, which through its designee shall contact the member to ascertain if he or she wishes to make an application and to screen the person to determine if he or she meets the minimum qualifications. The membership committee will inform the person of the qualifications and when the next interviews will be conducted. No member will individually solicit members on behalf of Interdisciplinary Group, unless with the advice and consultation and under the direction of the membership committee.

- b. The member sponsoring the applicant shall provide written notice of the application to each member at least three (3) days before the meeting immediately prior to the meeting at which the application will be voted on. The notice shall certify that the applicant meets the criteria for membership.
- c. The applicant will complete an approved application and submit to an interview before the group.
- d. The applicant will be apprised of membership requirements, including the obligation to pay initial and future assessments.
- e. At the meeting immediately prior to the regular monthly meeting at which the application will be voted on, the first round of discussions about the applicant shall occur.
- f. At the meeting at which the application is to be voted on, additional discussions will be held to the extent they are necessary.
- g. After the discussion is concluded and the question is called, a vote will be taken by secret ballot. If a member desiring a vote on the application is unable to attend the meeting, he or she may give a written proxy to a member who will be present or otherwise cast his/her vote with the membership committee. The membership committee will make reasonable effort to secure a vote from every member.
- h. The membership committee will count the ballots and certify the result. If the vote exceeds ninety (90%) in favor of the applicant, the applicant will be approved. If there are ten percent (10%) or more votes against the applicant, the application will be denied. An abstention will be treated as a vote in favor of the applicant.
- i. There will be no appeal from this process by any applicant or by any member recommending an applicant.

In addition to the above minimum requirements, Attorneys must also meet the following requirement(s):

Have a Texas law license and have an active law practice in Texas for a minimum of five (5) years or show a substantial involvement in the practice of family law for a minimum of two (2) years.

In addition to the above minimum requirements, Mental Health Professionals must also meet the following requirement(s):

Have a masters or doctoral degree in a clinical mental health field (social work, counseling or psychology); have a current Texas license in that specific mental health discipline; have a minimum of 10 years clinical experience working with individuals and families.

In addition to the above minimum requirements, Financial Professionals must also meet the following requirement(s):

Have a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in Finance or Accounting and a minimum of five (5) years financial or accounting experience.