

MANDATORY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING FOR JUDGES

STATE	STATUTE	MANDATORY TRAINING?	STATUTORY LANGUAGE
Alabama	Ala. Rules for Mandatory Jud. Ed Sec. III, Rule 1, 2	No	All municipal court judges shall complete a minimum of six hours of approved continuing judicial education specifically relating to municipal court practice and procedure per calendar year. Credits will be granted for a particular activity if the activity relates to certain topics, including domestic violence.
Alaska	§ 18.66.310	Yes	The administrative director of the Alaska Court System shall, in consultation with the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, provide continuing education in domestic violence for judicial officers and court clerks who have contact with parties involved in domestic violence. The continuing education required must include information on the following subjects: (1) the nature, extent, and causes of domestic violence; (2) procedures designed to promote the safety of the victim and other household members; (3) resources available to victims and perpetrators of domestic violence; and (4) the lethality of domestic violence.
Arkansas	§ 20-82.206	Unclear	The Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence section within the office of the Chancellor of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences shall have the authority and responsibility to educate trial, appellate, and municipal judges, among other professionals, on issues, interventions, and other matters associated with child abuse, rape, and domestic violence.
California	Cal.Gov.Code § 68555	Yes	The Judicial Council shall establish judicial training programs for

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			individuals who perform duties in domestic violence matters, including, but not limited to, judges, referees, commissioners, mediators, and others as deemed appropriate by the Judicial Council. The training programs shall include a domestic violence session in any orientation session conducted for newly appointed or elected judges and an annual training session on domestic violence. The training programs shall include instruction on all aspects of domestic violence.
	2014 California Rules of Court Rule 10.464		Each judge or subordinate judicial officer who hears criminal, family, juvenile delinquency, juvenile dependency, or probate matters must participate in appropriate education on domestic violence issues as part of his or her requirements and expectations under rule 10.462. Each judge or subordinate judicial officer whose primary assignment is in one of these areas also must participate in a periodic update on domestic violence as part of these requirements and expectations.
Connecticut	§ 46b-38c	Yes	The Judicial Department shall establish an ongoing training program for judges, Court Support Services Division personnel, and clerks to inform them about the policies and procedures which include, but are not limited to, the function of the family violence intervention units and the use of restraining and protective orders.
Delaware	Executive Order: 2009 De Reg Text	Must develop policies	All executive branch agencies shall develop training on the policies related to domestic violence and the availability

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	203111		of resources to combat domestic violence. This Order shall apply to all Cabinet Departments and Executive Agencies of the State. The members of the General Assembly and the Judiciary are also encouraged to adopt this Order.
District of Columbia	§ 11-1104 and § 11-1732A	Yes	The chief judge, in consultation with the presiding judge of the Family Court, shall carry out an ongoing program to provide training in family law and related matters for judges of the Family Court and other judges of the Superior Court who are assigned Family Court cases, including magistrate judges, attorneys who practice in the Family Court, and appropriate nonjudicial personnel, and shall include in the program information and instruction regarding family dynamics, including domestic violence.
Florida	§ 25.385	Yes	The Florida Court Educational Council shall establish standards for instruction of circuit and county court judges who have responsibility for domestic violence cases, and the council shall provide such instruction on a periodic and timely basis.
Georgia	Georgia Fulton Co. R. 1000-3	Yes	Each Judicial Officer shall receive 20 hours of training, including four hours of domestic violence training.
Idaho	§ 32-1409	Yes, for specialized domestic violence courts	The district court in each county may establish a domestic violence court in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by the supreme court based upon recommendations by the committee as authorized pursuant to § 32-1403. The committee shall solicit specific domestic violence court plans from each judicial district, recommend

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			funding priorities for each judicial district and provide training to ensure the effective operation of domestic violence courts.
Illinois	Il. S. Ct. R. 908	No	Judges should have experience or training in domestic violence before hearing child custody cases.
Kentucky	§ 21A.170	Yes	The Supreme Court shall provide, at least once every two years, in- service training programs for Circuit Judges, District Judges, and domestic relations and trial commissioners in dynamics of domestic violence, effects of domestic violence on adult and child victims, legal remedies for protection, lethality and risk issues, model protocols for addressing domestic violence, available community resources and victims services, and reporting requirements.
Minnesota	§ 480.30	Yes	The Supreme Court's judicial education program must include ongoing training for district court judges on child and adolescent sexual abuse, domestic abuse, harassment, stalking, and related civil and criminal court issues. The program must include the following: (1) information about the specific needs of victims; (2) education on the causes of sexual abuse and family violence; (3) education on culturally responsive approaches to serving victims; (4) education on the impacts of domestic abuse and domestic abuse allegations on children and the importance of considering these impacts when making parenting time and child custody decisions; and (5) information on alleged and substantiated reports of domestic abuse. The program also must

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			emphasize the need for the coordination of court and legal victim advocacy services and include education on sexual abuse and domestic abuse programs and policies within law enforcement agencies and prosecuting authorities as well as the court system.
Mississippi	§ 93-21-31	Funding has been established	A Domestic Violence Training fund is established for use by the Domestic Violence Division to train judges and other professionals in the field of domestic violence.
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Domestic Violence Protocol 5-1	Yes	All staff shall be fully trained to handle domestic violence cases.
New Jersey	§ 2C:25-20	Yes	The Administrative Office of the Courts shall develop and approve a training course and a curriculum on the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning allegations of domestic violence. The Administrative Director of the Courts shall be responsible for ensuring that all judges and judicial personnel attend initial training within 90 days of appointment or transfer and an annual in-service training.
New Mexico	N.M R. Cle. R. 18-204	Yes	Annual training for metropolitan, district and appellate court judges, domestic violence special commissioners and domestic relations hearing officers shall include appropriate training in understanding domestic violence.
	N.M R. Cle. R. 25-103		Every magistrate court judge, magistrate judge <i>pro tempore</i> , municipal court judge, probate court judge, domestic violence special commissioner, and domestic relations hearing officer shall annually attend approved judicial

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			education programs for not less than the minimum number of continuing judicial education hours required by the administrative office of the courts. The administrative office of the courts shall include in the annual judicial education requirements an appropriate number of hours of training in understanding domestic violence.
New York	§ 212	Yes	Training about domestic violence shall be required for all judicial hearing officers in the judicial hearing officer pilot program.
North Carolina	§ 143B-394.16	No	The Domestic Violence Commission shall have the power and duty to develop and recommend domestic violence training initiatives for law enforcement and judicial personnel and for all persons who provide treatment and services to domestic violence victims.
Oklahoma	10A § 1-8-101	Yes	The Supreme Court is required to establish education and training requirements for judges, associate judges, special judges, and referees who have juvenile docket responsibility. Rules shall include, but not be limited to, education and training relating to juvenile law, child abuse and neglect, foster care and out-of-home placement, domestic violence, behavioral health treatment, and other similar topics. All judges having juvenile docket responsibility shall attend at least 12 hours of training in such courses each calendar year relating to the aforementioned topics.
Pennsylvania	Pa. R. Civ. Pro. No. 1931	Yes	Within one year of assignment to cases governed by these Family Court Rules, each master, hearing officer, conciliator,

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			mediator, and other court personnel designated by the president or administrative judge of each judicial district shall successfully complete the coursework developed or approved by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (“AOPC”), which includes courses of instruction on domestic violence. Each master, hearing officer, conciliator, mediator, and other court personnel designated by the president or administrative judge who is assigned to cases governed by these Family Court Rules shall successfully complete six hours of continuing education developed or approved by the AOPC each calendar year following the calendar year in which the initial training was completed.
Rhode Island	§ 12-29-6.1	Unclear	There is created the domestic violence training and monitoring unit, which shall be administered under the direction of the state court administrator.
South Carolina	§ 16-25-100	Yes	Magistrates, municipal court judges, family court judges, and circuit court judges shall receive continuing legal education on issues concerning domestic violence. The frequency and content of the continuing legal education is to be determined by the South Carolina Court Administration at the direction of the Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.
Tennessee	§ 38-12-107 and § 38-12-109	Yes	The administrative office of the courts shall establish a policy regarding, and a continuing education curriculum concerning, domestic violence and shall provide continuing education on domestic violence to all judges and court

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			personnel throughout the state who are likely to encounter situations of domestic violence. The administrative office of the courts may adopt the policy and training curriculum developed by the domestic violence state coordinating council, and may revise the policy and training curriculum at its discretion.
Texas	§ 22.110	Yes, for some.	The court of criminal appeals shall assure that judicial training related to the problems of family violence, sexual assault, and child abuse and neglect is provided. The rules must exempt from the training requirement of this subsection each judge or judicial officer who files an affidavit stating that the judge or judicial officer does not hear any cases involving family violence, sexual assault, or child abuse and neglect.
Washington	§ 26.12.804	Yes, for judges of the unified family court pilot programs.	The judges of the superior court judicial districts with unified family court pilot programs shall adopt local court rules directing the program. The local court rules shall comply with the criteria established by the administrative office of the courts and shall include an initial training program including the topic areas of childhood development, domestic violence, cultural awareness, child abuse and neglect, chemical dependency, and mental illness.
West Virginia	§ 48-27-1104	Yes	All circuit court judges may, and magistrates and family courts shall, receive a minimum of three hours training each year on domestic violence which shall include training on the psychology of domestic violence, the battered wife and child syndromes,

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