

Guidance for Reporting Work under the Family Mediation Contract

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6	September 2024	September 2024	Service Development

Version History

Version:	Date	Reason
1.0	1 st April 2013	Initial release
2.0	8 th July 2014	Update of reporting address
3.0	November 2014	To reflect changes to the Civil Legal Aid (Financial Resources and Payment for Services) Regulations 2013
4.0	March 2015	To reflect reporting changes into the Controlled Work Administration (CWA) system
5.0	September 2018	To update and reflect the changes introduced by the 2018 Standard Civil Contract
6.0	September 2024	To update and reflect the changes introduced by the 2024 Standard Civil Contract.

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1. Overview

1.1 This section sets out how to report Family Mediation work in the Contracted Work and Administration (CWA) system. It should be read in conjunction with the 2024 Standard Civil Contract Standard Terms and Family Mediation Specification and other guidance referred to in this document.

2. Family Mediation Reporting

- 2.1 Completed matters and new matters must be reported monthly.
- 2.2 The information provided is required for contract management and may also provide information about caseloads. This management information will be used to monitor the contract work and may trigger closer examination of work.
- 2.3 Completed matters should be reported using the relevant codes. It is important that you complete these codes correctly as they have a direct impact on the calculations of the value of your reported work. Ongoing mediations should not be reported monthly only when they are completed.

Reporting submissions

- 2.4 Completed matters and new matter starts should be reported electronically with LAA Online, using one of the following methods:
 - Bulkload a file created from a case management system via CWA.
 - Bulkload a file created from the Bulkload spreadsheet and submit via CWA.
 - Enter data directly into CWA on a line-by-line basis.

More detailed instructions and quick user guides are available on our website at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cwa-quick-guides

- 2.5 The deadline for electronic submissions is the 20th of the month. For example, you must submit your July submission by 20th August. Contract payments depend on the timely reporting of your submissions. Any completed work must be reported within three months of completion. Please note that any failure to do this may result in payments being reduced or declined. Payment depends on the timely return of these forms. Failure to comply with these requirements will lead to a severe delay in your monthly contract payments being made.
- 2.6 You should only report matters that have been concluded by the end of the previous calendar month. For example, when submitting your July submission in August you should only include cases that have concluded by 31st July.
- 2.7 If no work has started in a month then a nil return must be submitted. If no work is completed or closed within a month, then again, a nil return must be submitted. For further guidance on making nil submissions in CWA please see the CWA quick user guide on nil submissions which is available on our website at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cwa-quick-guides
- 2.8 Any queries regarding your payments or returns should be addressed to the reconciliation@Justice.gov.uk Queries about your contract should be address to your contract manager.

3. How to make a claim for Mediation Work via CWA

- **3.1 Mediation cases should always be recorded separately to the Assessment Meetings** even if the mediation ends in the same month that the Assessment Meeting takes place. You may therefore have to make two separate entries in the same submission in one month in respect of the same matter.
- **3.2** Assessment Meeting Alone should only be used when one party attends and you are sure the other party will not attend. Do not use this code when both parties attend separately.
- 3.3 Assessment Meetings should be recorded as having been completed in the same month that they take place. Assessment Meetings where each client has been seen separately (Assessment Meeting Separate) must be recorded on two separate lines.
- **3.4** Details of mediation cases should only be recorded in a submission in the month in which the case is completed i.e. when the outcome of the case is clear. This would include, but is not limited to, the following circumstances:
- The mediation has broken down after a single session;
- The mediation has broken down after several sessions ("multi sessions");
- The parties have reached an understanding but do not want this produced as a formal agreement;
- A formal agreement has been produced on all the issues in dispute;
- A formal agreement has been produced on some of the issues in dispute.
- 3.5 Mediations that have broken down should only be reported when either of the two following conditions are met:
 - If you are **sure** (e.g. clients indicate that they do not wish to continue) that the parties will not continue with the mediation;
 - If you are **reasonably sure** (e.g. consider it likely) that the parties will not continue with the mediation **and** three months have elapsed since the Single Session, or the last session.

Fields to be completed in CWA

3.6 After selecting the correct mediation submission you will be required to add outcomes.

For mediation claims and Assessment Meeting Together claims details for the first and second client must be entered. For all other claims entry of the second client's details is optional. Where the second client's details are entered, all fields for that client are mandatory.

Field	To be completed for Assessment Meeting or Mediation?	Guidance
Work Type	Both	Work type refers to the various types of Assessment Meetings and mediations. It should be recorded in one of the following categories using short codes:

			Assessment Meeting – Together	ASSM:ASST
			Assessment Meeting – Alone	ASSM:ASSA
			Assessment Meeting – Separate	ASSM:ASSS
			Child Only Sole	MEDI:MDCS
			Child Only Co	MEDI:MDCC
			Property & Finance Sole	MEDI:MDPS
			Property & Finance Co	MEDI:MDPC
			All Issues Sole	MEDI:MDAS
			All Issues Co	MEDI:MDAC
		shoul this w	If co-mediation was the d be a note on the case as the appropriate mod	e file indicating why lel to use.
		separa media	ssment Meetings should ately to the Mediation c tion ends in the same mo sment Meeting takes pla	ases even if the onth that the
			Assessment Meetings – be recorded on separat client.	
		only re	Il Issues Mediation is sta eached on e.g. Children i still be recorded as an A	ssues, the Work Type
		a Chilo Proper media	ediation is started (and re d Only Sole mediation an rty & Finance sole issues tion (or vice versa), the n ed as an All Issues Sole eted.	a subsequently are dealt with in natter should be
Schedule Reference	Both	This field will indicate the Schedule under which the case was started.		dule under which the
		Must b	be completed in the follow	ving format:
		Office	account number/MEDIyy	yy/nn
		this re	the year of the contract fers to financial year <u>not</u> ne year of the schedule (e	calendar year)

Field	To be	Quidance
Field	completed	Guidance
	for	
	Assessment	
	Meeting or	
	Mediation?	
Case	Both	Case reference refers to your organisation's
Reference		systematic naming of client files. Each matter must
Number		have a unique reference number/ID. This reference is
		essential for effective auditing of contracts. Please ensure that this reference enables the file to be
		retrieved if it is requested at an audit.
		If an Assessment Meeting/s has led to a mediation
		then the mediation must be allocated the same case
		reference number as the Assessment Meeting/s. You
		may, however, assign a single running number or
		letter at the beginning or the end of the case reference number/ID to denote the different stages of
		the matter.
		E.G. An assessment meeting, which later progresses
		on to mediation, is given the reference OLP/0903D/1,
		while the mediation is given the reference number OLP/0903D/2.
		OEF/0903D/2.
		One case reference will apply to both clients and will
		apply to all work done in connection with the case.
		Where Direct Consultation with Children is used
		please add the code DCC on the end of the
		reference number for the mediation. This will allow
		the LAA to identify cases where direct consultation is
		used and monitor the profile and outcomes achieved.
Case Start	Both	If the metter is an Assessment Meeting, report the
Date	DOIN	If the matter is an Assessment Meeting, report the date when the meeting was held.
Date		date when the meeting was held.
		If the matter is mediation, use the date of the first
		mediation session.
		The date must be recorded in the format:
		DD/MM/YYYY e.g. 5th Oct 2024 should be recorded
		05/10/2024.
Claim ID	Both	A unique 3-digit number per office per day.
		When combined with Case Start Date will comprise
		the Unique File Number (UFN) which uniquely
		identifies an individual claim/outcome for a provider
		office.

Client	Both	Forename of Client 1 in the mediation.
Forename		
Client	Both	Surname of Client 1 in the mediation.
Surname		

Field	To be completed for Assessment Meeting or Mediation?	Guidance	
Client Date of Birth	Both	Date of birth of Client 1 in the mediation.	
Unique Client Number	Both	Made up of Client 1's date of birth, their first initial, and the first four letters of their surname. The UCN must be recorded in the format (ddmmyyyy/A/AAAA) e.g. 01011978/J/SMIT	
Gender	Both	Complete the gender field for Client 1 with the following codes (see table): Female F Male M Unknown U	
Ethnicity		Please complete the ethnicity field for Client 1 wit the following codes (see table):Other00White British01White Irish02Black or Black British African03Black or Black British Caribbean04Black or Black British Other05Asian or Asian British Indian06Asian or Asian British Pakistani07Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi08Chinese09Mixed White & Black Caribbean10Mixed White and Black African11Mixed White and Black African12Mixed Other13White Other14Asian or Asian British other15Gypsy/Traveller16	
		Unknown	99

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Field	To be	Guidance	
Field	completed	Guidance	
	for		
	Assessment		
	Meeting or		
	Mediation?		
Disability	Both		e disability field for Client 1 with the
		following co	des (see table).
			want to matters anound before 1
		April 201	vant to matters opened before 1 3
		PHY	Physical Impairment
		SEN	Sensory Impairment
		COG	Cognitive Impairment
		For use r	egardless of matter start date
		NCD	Not Considered Disabled
		MHC	Mental Health Condition
		LDD	Learning Disability/Difficulty
		ILL	Long Standing Illness Or Health Condition
		OTH	Other
		UKN	Unknown
		MOB	Mobility impairment
		HEA	Hearing impaired
		DEA	Deaf
		VIS	Visually impaired
		BLI	Blind
		DLI	Dinid
		disability, p column with has multipl	onsiders himself or herself to have a lease mark the disability monitoring h the most appropriate code. If the client e disabilities please report the code that predominant disability.
			does not consider himself or herself en mark the column with the code NCD.
			ient does not wish to provide this please mark the column with the code
Client Postcode	Both	client's full, a will normally numbers, fo and two lette If the client operates a	is field for Client 1. It is important that the accurate postcode is entered here. This is be one or two letters, then one or two llowed by a space and then one number ers; for example, B25 8RK, AB32 7PY. does not know their postcode, Royal Mail telephone postcode enquiry service on 222. Please do not enter fictitious codes.
		If you or the	client genuinely cannot provide an

	accurate postcode (perhaps because new properties have not yet had their codes notified), please record 'NFA'.
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Field	Taha	Quidence
Field	To be	Guidance
	completed	
	for	
	Assessment	
	Meeting or Mediation?	
Client Legally Aided	Both	Complete 'client legally aided' for Client 1.
		For the purposes of this guidance 'legally aided' and 'eligible' mean any party for whom you have completed an assessment of financial eligibility for legal aid and who can be demonstrated as meeting the eligibility requirements. For the avoidance of doubt, those parties exempt from the financial eligibility test by virtue of Regulation 5 of the Civil Legal Aid (Financial Resources and Payment for Services) Regulations 2013 (as amended) must <u>not</u> be recorded as legally aided.
		Complete the legally aided field with the following numerical codes (see table) in relation to client's eligibility:
		Legally Aided Code
		Yes Y
		No - other party N is legally aided
		For Assessment Meetings a party is either eligible at the time of the assessment or they are not. If a client becomes eligible after the assessment meeting then they should be recorded as ineligible for the purposes of the submission of the Assessment Meeting.
2nd Client	Both	Forename of Client 2 in the mediation.
Forename		
2nd Client	Both	Surname of Client 2 in the mediation.
Surname		
2nd Client	Both	Date of birth of Client 2 in the mediation.
Date of Birth		
2nd Client	Both	Made up of Client 2's date of birth, their first initial,
Unique Client Number		and the first four letters of their surname.
NUTIDET		The UCN must be recorded in the format (ddmmyyyy/A/AAAA) e.g. 02021980/M/SMIT
2nd Client Gender	Both	Complete the gender field for Client 2. Codes as per Client 1 (see above).
2nd Client	Both	Complete the ethnicity field for Client 2. Codes as per
	2001	

Ethnicity		Client 1 (see above).
2nd Client Disability	Both	Complete the disability field for Client 2. Codes as per Client 1 (see above).
2nd Client Postcode	Both	Complete this field for Client 2. Guidance on postcodes is set out above.
2nd Client Legally Aided	Both	Complete '2 nd client legally aided' for Client 2. Guidance on legally aided as per Client 1 (see above).

Field	To be completed for Assessment Meeting or Mediation?	Guidance
Unique Case ID	Both	This is the UFN (i.e. case start date and Case id) of the first attendance in the mediation (See UFN, above). Where there is more than one claim line for a particular case (e.g. where separate assessment meetings or where a claim for mediation follows a claim for an assessment meeting) this will enable the LAA to link together the total claims relating to a case.
Outreach Code	Both	 When the meeting(s) with clients are conducted at a location at which your service has authorisation to do outreach work you must fill in a number, which refers to the location that the meeting took place. If the meeting(s) are taking place at your main office you should fill in 000 (zero). The number must be three digit starting with 001 and running upwards (i.e. 002, 003 etc.). For example, your main office is in Norwich and you have one outreach post in Attleborough and one in Cromer. Then main office is number 000, Attleborough number 001 and Cromer 002. An overview indicating which number refers to which location must be kept easily available. For a definition of Outreach, please see the Contract Specification.
Referral Code	Both	Use the following two digit codes when recording the source of referral:
		Referral Source Code

Referral from solicitor	02
Referral from court	03
Referral from CAB	04
Referral from other	05
advice agency or	
telephone helpline	
Referral from Relate or	06
other relationship	
counselling	
Referral from GP/NHS	07
Clients self-referred	08
Other	09
Unknown	10
Separated Parents	11
Information Programme	
(SPIP)	
	·
Source of referral must be	completed for both
assessment meetings and	mediations.
-	

Field	To be completed for Assessment Meeting or Mediation?	Guidance	
Outcome Mediation Code		This field is not applicable t Use the following codes wh of a case:	
		(i.e. successful) but no agreed proposal was written up Mediation broken down	B
		- i.e. no agreed proposal Mediation successful – i.e. an agreed proposal(s) was reached All Issues Mediation and	S
		an agreed proposal was reached only on Children issues. All Issues Mediation and	P
		an agreed proposal was reached only on Property & Finance issues.	
		We do acknowledge that so down just after an agreed p up. These should still be re	proposal has been written
		When an agreed proposal i understood as the parties h on most of issues in dispute is thus never classified an a contract.	nave reached agreement e. "Agreement to disagree"
Number of Mediation Sessions	Mediation	This field is not applicable t Record the number of sess Do not count Assessment I drafting of the Agreed Prop	ions spent on mediation. Meeting(s) and/or the

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Field	To be	Guidance
Field	completed	Guidance
	for	
	Assessment	
	Meeting or	
	Mediation?	
Mediation Time	Mediation	This field is not applicable to Assessment Meetings.
		 Record the total time in minutes spent on the case. Include the following elements: time taken in the sessions, preparing and reviewing sessions (this will be the actual time taken rather than the combined time of the mediators when the co-mediation model is used) time spent on drafting documents including the session notes and agreed proposals where applicable. time spent on correspondence by mediator (telephone/email/letter) which progresses the case
		 Do not include the time spent on the Assessment Meeting/s general administration e.g. setting up the appointments, other telephone contact, arranging meeting room etc. travel time
		We do acknowledge that time is spent on administration and there are elements allocated in the set rates in the contract. However, the purpose of the time recording is for us to get an understanding of time used by mediators.
		If your organisation currently records time in units rather than minutes, please convert units to minutes i.e. where 1 unit = 6 minutes, the number of units multiplied by 6.
VAT Indicator	Both	Where the VAT indicator is checked VAT will automatically be added to the applicable Assessment Meeting fee, Mediation Session fee and any applicable Agreed Proposal fee.
		CodeVAT IndicatorYProvider is VAT registered - Apply VATNProvider is not VAT registered - do not apply VAT
Dieburgemente	Dath	It will not apply VAT to any disbursement costs as these will be recorded separately.
Disbursements	Both	Record the total amount of disbursements incurred

excluding VAT	on this matter excluding VAT.	
	The contract specification sets out what you can claim as disbursements. If no disbursements were incurred, record 00:00.	

Field	To be completed for Assessment Meeting or Mediation?	Guidance
Disbursements VAT Amount	Both	If your organisation is registered for VAT and the disbursements attracts VAT, the VAT figure should be entered here. When claiming VAT on Disbursements CWA will limit the amount you can claim. The VAT rate to be applied is the rate that was applicable on the date the case was concluded. If you claim Disbursements VAT in excess of this limit your claim will be rejected by CWA. Please note the VAT rate applicable for disbursements is determined by the date the disbursement is incurred and not the date of conclusion of the overall matter. For further information on the rules around VAT reporting see the LAA website.
Work Concluded Date	Mediation	This field is not applicable to Assessment Meetings. The date the mediation was concluded by the Provider.

4. How to Report Family Mediation Starts in CWA

- 4.1 After completing your monthly claim details you will then be required to complete the details of the mediations started in the submission month.
- 4.2 You should only enter the number of mediations started in the submission month. Do not include Assessment Meeting starts as these will be captured in the screens referred to above.

Table of Work Start Fields

Field	Guidance
New Matter Starts	You must only record the number of mediations started in each of the six categories of work. Report a nil in those mediation categories where there have been no matter starts.
	Mediation cases must be recorded as a single case start regardless of the fact there are two parties. Separate starts must not be reported in respect of each party.
	Do not include ongoing matters, which have been reported as started in an earlier month.

5. A Check List of Contract Rules for Completing Mediation Submissions

5.1. Please ensure you comply fully with our reporting requirements under CWA. It is very important that you comply with these as they ensure the right calculation for the value of your work.

Check 1:

If you record the work type as an Assessment Meeting Alone (ASSM:ASSA), you need to ensure that the client is registered as being Legally Aided.

Check 2:

If couples are referred to an Assessment Meeting then at least one of the clients needs to be legally aided to be able to claim.

Check 3:

If a couple attend an Assessment Meeting Separate (ASSM –ASSS) and are attending because one of the clients has been referred by a solicitor, then you need to complete the Referral box with 02 for both records – not just for the client who was referred. (See also "Check 2" above and "Check 5" below)

Check 4:

If you record one of the six types of Mediations (Child Sole, Child Co, P & F Sole, P & F Co, AIM Sole or AIM Co) as work type, you must also ensure that you complete the Legally Aided fields with a 'Y' for at least one of the clients.

A record with mediation where the Legally Aided field is empty for both clients is incorrect and will generate a £0 value.

Check 5:

Couples who attend Assessment Meeting Separate (ASSM:ASSS) must be recorded on two separate lines.

Check 6:

When couples have either finished an Assessment Meeting Together (ASSM:ASST) or a Mediation (Child Sole, Child Co, P & F Sole, P & F Co, AIM Sole or AIM Co) then the name and the details of gender, disability, ethnicity, age and post code must be completed for both clients and not only for one.

Check 7:

Always double check the accuracy of data - especially codes used for Work-Type, Legally Aided, Session Quantity, Outcome, and Referral - before submitting your return via CWA.