



VaCP Membership Criteria:

To join the Virginia Collaborative Professionals (VaCP) or to renew your VaCP Membership the following is required:

1. Current license/certification:

Each professional must be a member in good standing in their respective profession and be licensed or hold a certification as: Attorney at Law (JD, LL.B), Mental Health Professional (Ph.D., Psy.D., Ed.D., L.E.P., LCSW, LPC, LMFT, Psychiatrist) or Financial Specialist (CFP®, CPA, ChFC) .

2. Insurance:

Have and maintain current professional liability or E&O insurance.

3. Training and background:

a. All Professionals: Completed Basic Collaborative Law (attorneys) or a Two or Three-day Interdisciplinary Collaborative Practice Team training (all). Trainings and trainers must meet the IACP Minimum Standards.

b. Licensed Mental Health Professionals: Background, education and experience in: family systems theory, individual and family life cycle and development, assessment of individual and family strengths, assessment and challenges of family dynamics in separation and divorce.

i. Child specialists: Expertise in child development, clinical experience with a specialty focus on children and an in-depth understanding of children's unique issues in divorce.

c. Financial Specialists: i) Background, education and experience in: financial aspects of divorce, cash management and spending plans, retirement and pension plans, income tax, investments, real estate, insurance, property division and individual and family financial planning concepts; and

ii) An accumulation of or aggregate of twenty hours of education in the financial fundamentals of divorce giving the financial professional a basic understanding of family law in their own jurisdiction, including divorce procedures, property-valuation and division, pensions and retirement plans, child and spousal support, future income projections, financial implications of different scenarios for settlement

4. IACP:

Members are encouraged but not required to join and maintain a membership in the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP).

5. Continuing Collaborative Education:

The following trainings to be completed before or within 24-months of joining VaCP:

- a. 30-hour interest-based negotiation training (such as mediation training);
- b. 15 additional hours of intermediate or advanced Collaborative or interest-based negotiation training such interest-based negotiation training, communication skills training, advanced mediation training, basic professional coach training; and then
- c. 4 hours of continuing Collaborative training or education annually.

6. Ethical Standards:

Comply with the “IACP Minimum Ethical Standards for Collaborative Practitioners” on pages 5-15 of the IACP Standards and Ethics (2018).

ALL VaCP Members shall comply with VaCP rules and policies that the VaCP may from time to time adopt with respect to VaCP operations and to resolving legal disputes using the Collaborative Process.