

What is the Cost of Mediation?

There is a \$25 processing fee for mediating agriculture issues. The fee for all other issues will be determined by the complexity of the issue and the time involved in mediating the issue.

Where Will The Mediation Take Place?

The mediation program covers the entire state of Mississippi. The mediation will be scheduled at one of MAMP's offices or at a neutral location that is convenient for all parties. The mediator will ultimately decide which location the mediation will be held. In certain situations, mediations can be conducted via telephone.

How Do I Request Mediation?

To request mediation, the requesting party must fill out a request for mediation and forward it to LyTanya Toomer. Once the request is received, someone will contact the party to schedule an appointment to assess the situation, at which time the mediation will be scheduled.

For more information on the Mississippi Agriculture Mediation Program or to schedule a mediation, please contact:

Mississippi Association of
Cooperatives

233 East Hamilton Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39202

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Mississippi Association of Cooperatives

*A State Association of the Federation of Southern
Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund*



Mississippi Agriculture Mediation Program



MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURE MEDIATION PROGRAM

The Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, (MAC), a state association of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, was chartered in December 1972, as a non-profit organization.

MAC's mission is to enhance the quality of life and economic opportunities for rural Mississippi residents through the development of cooperative businesses and other economic strategies.

One component of the association's work, is the agriculture mediation program, which is designed to help individuals to resolve disputes in a non-adversarial setting with confidentiality without going through litigation, appeals, bankruptcy and foreclosure.

How Does Mediation Work?

Mediation is a process where parties in dispute sit down with a neutral third party to try to settle

their dispute without going through litigation. The parties are in total control of the decision making process.

The mediation is facilitated by a trained Certified Mediator whose purpose is to control the environment, facilitate discussion, and help those in dispute to identify their mutual problems, identify and consider options, and attempt to reach a mutual solution. The Mediator is not the decision maker, therefore successful mediations require the cooperation of all parties.

Who May Participate?

Any parties in dispute may participate in mediation as long as both parties are willing. Participation in mediation does not constitute a waiver of any legal rights. If no solution is reached, the parties are free to proceed with other legal remedies. If a solution is reached during mediation, an agreement is prepared and may be enforced as a legal contract between the parties; however, the document will not become final until all parties have an opportunity to have it reviewed and signed.

Advantages of Mediation.

- Voluntary
- Confidential
- Preserves relationships
- Alternative to litigation
- Time and cost efficient
- Informal and private
- Creative solutions
- High success rate

What Can Be Mediated?

- FSA loan disputes
- Domestic issues
- Wetland determinations
- Conservation compliance
- Boundaries determination
- Family farm concerns and estate planning
- USDA Appeals
- Divorce
- Custody and Visitation