

LGALR 9 TITLE 26 GUARDIAN AD LITEM REQUIREMENTS

(a) Initial Application Requirements. New applicants may apply for placement on the GAL Registries between January 1 and 31 of each year, and at other times that the court may designate. To be qualified for consideration for placement on a GAL Registry, in addition to statutory requirements, an applicant must:

- (1) have a four-year degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
- (2) provide a current resume or curriculum vitae;
- (3) complete the GAL application form provided by the GAL Coordinator;
- (4) complete the Background Check Information/Authorization Form provided by the GAL Coordinator;
- (5) provide a sample GAL report of three to five pages in length, double spaced, based on a fact scenario to be provided by the GAL Coordinator;
- (6) complete an interview as directed by the Registry Committee;
- (7) if an attorney, be a member in good standing of the Washington State Bar Association; and
- (8) complete the required state and local GAL training courses as set forth in LGALR 10 (note: completion of the mentoring component is not required for application but is required prior to appointment to a case).

(b) Practicum. All applicants must provide proof of four completed GAL assignments for any Washington State Superior Court within the last five years or proof of successful completion of two supervised GAL assignments as follows:

- (1) One GAL assignment done in conjunction with a mentor GAL that includes accompanying the mentor on all visits, attendance at all interviews, participation in preparation of a report, and attendance at all court hearings. The mentor is the GAL of record and this assignment is without compensation to the applicant; and
- (2) One GAL assignment done under the supervision of the same mentor GAL that includes more active participation on the part of the applicant, such as requesting documents, conducting interviews, and preparing reports under the supervision of the mentor. The mentor is the GAL of record and this assignment is without compensation to the applicant.

(c) Selection process. The Registry Committee shall review all information provided by the applicants, including the sample GAL report, and ensure the conduct of interviews and reference checks as deemed appropriate. The Registry Committee shall

issue a letter to each applicant by March 31 of each year indicating whether the applicant's request to be placed on the GAL Registry is accepted or declined.

[Adopted effective September 1, 2007; Amended effective September 1, 2010; September 1, 2017.]