



# PARENT EDUCATION

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

<https://courts.delaware.gov/family>

## Related Forms

Form 191 – Generic  
Motion Packet

All forms can be found on  
the Family Court  
Website at

<https://courts.delaware.gov/family>

## Family Court Contact Information

### New Castle County

Leonard L Williams  
Justice Center  
500 N. King Street  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
302-255-0300

### Kent County

Family Courthouse  
400 Court Street  
Dover, DE 19801  
302-672-1000

### Sussex County

Family Courthouse  
22 The Circle  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
302-855-7400

### What is It?

Parent Education Programs are a 6-8 hour course to help parents cope with a divorce or separation. It is not a course on how to raise children.

### Who Must Attend?

- All parents in divorce cases with children up to the age of 17
- All parents who are a party to a custody proceeding
- A parent in a visitation proceeding if the opposing party is also a parent of the child.

### Which Class Should I Attend?

A list of approved education programs is attached. Parents are responsible for enrolling themselves in a program.

### Who Must Attend Domestic Violence Related Classes?

Both parents must go if:

- One parent has a criminal conviction for a crime against the other parent
  - There is or ever was a Protection from Abuse Order between the parties
- Parents may not attend the same domestic violence class.

### What happens if I do not attend a Parent Education Class?

In a divorce case, if a Certificate of Completion is not received within 180 days of the date of the filing of the Petition, the Petition will be dismissed. In a custody or visitation case, failure to attend the class may be considered in deciding the case or may result in the court dismissing the case.

### What Does It Cost?

Each program sets its own fee, but the fee may not be more than \$100 per parent. The programs also offer financial aid.

### In a Custody or Visitation Case, When Do I Have to Take the Class?

The Petitioner and the Respondent must complete the class prior to the final hearing.

### How Will the Court Know I Have Completed the Program?

The teachers of each course will give you a certificate when you complete the program. You must give the original certificate to the Court.

### Can This Requirement Be Waived?

This requirement may be waived for good reason. If the Petitioner wants the Court to do so, he or she must file a Motion, asking the Court to waive the requirement and showing there is a good reason why he or she should not have to take the course. The generic motion form is available online and in the Resource Centers.

A party may also file a Motion requesting the Court recognize a comparable education program. The Motion must attach the program's curriculum. The generic motion form is available online and in the Resource Centers.