



EARLY EVICTIION MEDIATION

Before going to court, try mediation.

WHAT IS EARLY EVICTIION MEDIATION?

Tenants and landlords have a unique business relationship. When it works, both benefit. However, when tenants can't pay their rent and communication breaks down, landlords generally file for eviction.

Mediating early, on the other hand, before an eviction is filed, can help the tenant and landlord talk with the help of an impartial mediator, and reach mutually satisfactory agreements that preserve the relationship, enabling the landlord to be paid and the tenant to remain housed.

WHY MEDIATE EARLY?

Free

There is no cost for landlords or tenants to participate in early mediation.

Quicker scheduling

Mediation sessions can be scheduled within 3-5 days when landlords and tenants are flexible.

Avoid Court

By not going to court, tenants won't have an eviction on their record and landlords can maintain their rental income. The business relationship is preserved.

Payment Plans and Other Agreements

Payment plans agreed to in mediation enable the landlord to be paid the rent owed as well as rent moving forward if the tenant remains in the residence.



AT A GLANCE

TENANTS

- remain in the residence or have time to find a new place to live

LANDLORDS

- avoid the cost of going to court
- avoid the challenge and uncertainty of collection and/or re-letting the unit

LANDLORDS & TENANTS

- resolve the matter quickly and cost-effectively
- preserve their business relationship
- improve communication and trust

WHAT IS MEDIATION?

- Mediation is a private, informal process that provides landlords and tenants with the opportunity to talk with the help of an impartial mediator and negotiate agreements that restore their business relationship and enable them to avoid going to court.
- Mediation is not part of the legal system. Landlords and tenants make their own decisions.
 - If no agreement is reached and an eviction process is filed, The Mediation Center of the Pacific (MCP) will provide the landlord and tenant(s) with a Mediation Status form to show the judge that mediation was attempted.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

- If English is not a participant's primary language, MCP will provide an interpreter.
- Meetings are held remotely through Zoom. If a participant does not have internet access, MCP will provide access at its office.
- Before the mediation, participants are required to electronically sign a confidentiality agreement. Reminders are sent via email. **Make sure to check your email regularly and double check your junk mail folder.**
- A mediation session will be scheduled for 1½ hours at a day and time agreed to by landlord and tenant.
- Participants **first meet together with the mediator, and then each will meet privately** with the mediator while the other waits in the waiting room.
- If the participants are not comfortable meeting together, **either may request to only meet privately with the mediator.**
- If you reach an agreement, the mediator will put the agreement in writing to be signed electronically.

HOW DO I SCHEDULE?

Go to
<https://www.mediatehawaii.org/contact>
and complete the form.

Call (808) 521-6767

- Speak with our Client Services Specialist

Interpreters available on request

Each session lasts 1½ hours

The mediator helps landlords and tenants talk to each other and create a plan