

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Prospective Attorneys for Children  
**FROM:** Linda J. Kostin, Director, Office of Attorneys for Children  
**RE:** Introductory Training Application and Related Information  
**DATE:** January 2026

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Thank you for your interest in the Attorneys for Children Program. The training will be held via webinar over three half days on **Monday, April 27, Tuesday, April 28, and Wednesday, April 29, 2026**. The training is being offered in collaboration with the Appellate Division, Third Department. The application and agenda for the training can be found on our website at: <https://ad4.nycourts.gov/afc/prospective>.

Because there are many applicants for the webinar, not everyone who applies will be able to attend. Selections will be made on the basis of factors such as geographic location, Family Court experience, and “special” skills, e.g., fluency in a foreign language. **If you have concerns about completing the experience requirements set forth in questions 15 and 16 of the application, please reach out and we will be happy to work with you to help you obtain the required experience.**

**A hard or scanned copy of the application with an original signature should be received by this office by February 20, 2026**, to be considered in our first round of decisions. You will receive a letter informing you of the decision by March 6, 2026. **If accepted, you will also receive instructions for accessing the online training videos, which must be completed prior to the webinar.**

Prior to attending the webinar, you must view four (4) training videos, including one segment of domestic violence training, on the AFC Program website. All attorneys, including those admitted to practice less than two years, will receive CLE credit for viewing the videos.

**You will not be eligible for designation to a county panel until you have (1) completed the online training videos and submitted separate viewing verification affirmations (with the correct viewing codes) and evaluations for each video segment, and (2) attended the webinar training on April 27, 28 & 29.**

Once again, **applications should be received by February 20, 2026** to be considered in our first round of decisions. We will continue to consider applications after the February 20 deadline on a first-come first-served basis until all spots are filled. Thank you for your interest in the Attorneys for Children Program.

**Please submit completed applications to:**

**NYS Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department  
Office of Attorneys for Children  
Attn: Jennifer M. Kohler, Court Analyst  
M. Dolores Denman Courthouse  
50 East Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14604**

Applications may also be scanned and submitted by email to: [ad4-afc-re-des@nycourts.gov](mailto:ad4-afc-re-des@nycourts.gov)