

## Qualification Standards of Neutrals

In order to set a high level of standards among its mediators, IPOPHL developed an accreditation system that emphasizes on skills and knowledge on intellectual property and ADR for its neutrals.

### Accreditation of Mediators

In order to become an accredited mediator of the IPOPHL, one must meet the qualifications and comply with the requirements set forth below:

Qualifications of Mediators. An applicant must possess all of the following minimum qualifications at the time of submission of the application to join the IPOPHL Mediation Office's List of Accredited Mediators:

- a. Have finished a bachelor's degree, preferably engineers, psychologists,
- b. At least 37 years old unless by reason of his expertise, one of younger age may qualify;
- c. With good moral character;
- d. Trustworthy and able to handle confidential information;
- e. Creative in giving proper options to the parties;
- f. At least seven (7) years of experience in mediating cases or in legal practice involving intellectual property disputes; and
- g. Proficient in oral and written communication.

Requirement for Application. All applicants must submit the following requirements to IPOPHL Mediation Office:

- a. Application letter
- b. Curriculum vitae (please include character references with contact information);
- c. 1 (2 x 2 picture) and 1 (1 x 1 picture) with white background; and
- d. NBI clearance.

Selection Process. The selection of prospective mediators shall be based on their education, training, experience and background. There will also be a panel interview for each applicant.

Applicants shall attend an ***"Integrated Mediators' IP Rights and Skills Training"***, a forty (40) hours training that blends depth and understanding of IP issues, specifically in Trademarks and Copyrights, with expertise in Mediation Skills.

Accreditation. The IPOPHL Mediation Office shall endorse the applicants who have successfully completed the required training for accreditation as IPOPHL mediators to the Director General. All accredited Mediators shall sign a contract of service indicating the terms and conditions of their accreditation, including their remuneration. For this purpose, the rules and requirements under RA 9184 and the Implementing Rules and Regulations shall be strictly observed.

Renewal of Accreditation. The accreditation shall last for a period of one year. Accredited Mediators who mediate at least twelve (12) cases and successfully settle at least six (6) cases shall be accredited for another year. Those who fail to mediate and settle the required number of cases shall lose their accreditation.