

## **SOCIAL STUDY PROVIDER GUIDELINES**

### **1. MAINTAIN OFFICE WITHIN DENTON COUNTY**

### **2. MEET THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS ESTABLISHED BY Texas Fam. Code Ann §107.104:**

- a) A licensee must be qualified to conduct a child custody evaluation pursuant to Tex. Fam. Code Ann §107.104 before the licensee may conduct an evaluation. Licensees qualified to conduct evaluations under Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §107.104(b)(2) must conduct evaluations with that section.
- b) Notwithstanding any other grounds for qualification, the Board has determined that a licensed psychologist is qualified to conduct child custody evaluations if the licensee:
  - i. Has obtained a minimum of 8 professional development hours directly related to the performance of child custody evaluations since becoming a licensed psychologist, and is board certified in forensic psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP); OR
  - ii. Has obtained a minimum of 40 professional development hours directly related to the performance of child custody evaluations since becoming a licensed psychologist, and has conducted at least three child custody evaluations under the supervision of a qualified licensee.
- c) A licensee who does not meet the minimum qualification requirements set forth in Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §107.104, may nevertheless conduct a child custody evaluation if:
  - i. Appointed to do so pursuant to Tex. Fam. Code Ann §107.106. A licensee appointed under Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §107.106 must comply with the provisions of Subchapter D of the Texas Family Code and this rule;
  - ii. The individual is licensed as a psychologist, and has completed at least ten social studies or other child custody evaluations ordered by a court in suits affecting the parent – child relationship prior to September 1, 2015; or
  - iii. The licensee was qualified to conduct a social study evaluation under former Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §107.0511(g). This subpart shall expire on August 31, 2017, at which time it shall have no further force and effect.
- d) If requested by a court, a licensee selected to conduct or who is conducting a child custody evaluation must demonstrate appropriate knowledge and competence in child custody evaluation services consistent with professional models, standards, and guidelines.
- e) In addition to the minimum qualifications set forth by this rule, an individual must complete at least eight hours of family violence dynamics training provided by a family violence service provider to be qualified to conduct child custody evaluations.

### **3. PROVIDE COPY OF RESUME AND FEE SCHEDULE**

SUBMIT REQUEST AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO:  
LARRY HARBOUR  
DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATION  
[larry.harbour@dentoncounty.com](mailto:larry.harbour@dentoncounty.com)

**\*\* PLEASE SUBMIT UPDATES FOR PROVIDER CONTACT INFORMATION AND FEES  
IN WRITTEN FORM \*\***

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING APPLYING TO GET ON THE DENTON  
COUNTY SOCIAL STUDY PROVIDERS LIST, PLEASE CONTACT LARRY HARBOUR  
VIA EMAIL: [larry.harbour@dentoncounty.com](mailto:larry.harbour@dentoncounty.com)