Becoming a Minnesota No-Fault Arbitrator

What type of cases do Minnesota No-Fault Arbitrators hear?

The majority of cases are for claims of Economic Loss Benefits; however, there is a small percentage of claims for property damage and windshield glass repair.

What are the qualifications to apply?

Pursuant to Rule 10(a) of the Minnesota Rules of No-Fault Arbitration Procedure, an applicant must meet the following qualifications to apply:

1. An attorney licensed in Minnesota or a retired attorney or judge in good standing;

2. At least 5 years in practice in Minnesota; and

3. At least one-quarter, based on a five (5) year average, of the applicant's practice is with auto insurance claims or, for an attorney not actively representing clients, a least one-quarter, based on a five (5) year average, of an ADR practice in motor vehicle claims or no-fault matters;

Are there continuing requirements to remain an arbitrator?

Yes, once approved to serve as an arbitrator, Rule 10 requires that an arbitrator complete the following to continue service:

1. Complete 3 CLE courses on no-fault issues during each reporting period; and

2. Complete a recertification form annually.

How do I apply?

You may access the Minnesota No-Fault Arbitrator application on the AAA's website at www.adr.org/mnnofault. It is located under "Minnesota No-Fault Arbitrator Information". Once the application is completed, it may be submitted to Krista Peach, Assistant Vice President, by email at KristaPeach@adr.org.

How to complete the W-9?

The applicant must also complete a W-9 form, which is attached to the application. The W-9 form determines how an arbitrator's compensation is issued.

If you would prefer that compensation be issued to you personally, you would include your social security number. However, if the arbitrator compensation should be issued to your firm, then note the firm's tax id number.

The form also requires that you include a mailing address. The AAA will mail checks to the address noted on the W-9.

How do I complete the training requirement noted in Rule 10?

Rule 10 requires that applicants complete a training program approved by the No-Fault Standing Committee prior to appointment to the panel. This is a free training facilitated by members of the Committee in conjunction with the AAA. Once an applicant has been approved, the AAA will provide information regarding the training. Typically, the training last about an hour and a half. You may elect to attend the training in person or by telephone. Every arbitrator must complete this training before the AAA will include your name on a strike list.

Who approves the applications?

The No-Fault Standing Committee reviews each application and makes a decision whether to approve or deny an application. Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis. If the Committee approves your application, you may serve on a conditional basis until the Minnesota Supreme Court approves your application. The Minnesota Supreme Court reviews applications on an annual basis.

If your application is denied, AAA will communicate with you the reason for the denial.

What are the compensation rates?

Rule 40 of the Minnesota Rules of No-Fault Arbitration Procedure governs arbitrator compensation. To view the rule, you may visit the AAA website at www.adr.org/mnnofault.