



Enhanced Arbitrator Selection Process for Large Complex Cases

What is the Enhanced Arbitrator Selection Process?

The Enhanced Arbitrator Selection Process is a level of service that is designed to give parties in AAA® arbitrations who use the Procedures for Large, Complex disputes greater flexibility and control in selecting the most appropriate arbitrator for their case. At no additional cost, parties can agree to customize their arbitrator selection process by agreeing to use one or more of the screening processes offered. Parties are encouraged to discuss options with each other and the AAA who will be knowledgeable in helping the parties' fine-tune their selection process.

The following is an overview of the suggested options offered using the Enhanced Arbitrator Selection Process:

Representative Sample Review

The AAA will provide the parties with an initial sample of arbitrator resumes based on the qualifications requested by the parties. The parties will review the sample resumes and confer with the AAA to give feedback on whether the arbitrators presented meet their needs. This feedback will be used in developing the final list of arbitrators from which the parties will select.

Pre-screening for Arbitrator Disclosures and Availability

The AAA will pre-screen a select number of arbitrators who possess the qualifications requested by the parties. The arbitrators may be pre-screened for conflicts of interest, availability, or both.

Supplemental Description of Arbitrator's Experience

The parties can request more information in the form of a brief synopsis regarding specific expertise in a specific field. The arbitrators will be requested to elaborate on experience in a specific area as requested by the parties. This may also include a request for references and/or a copy of a CV, where applicable.

Oral or Written Interviews of the Arbitrator Candidates

The AAA will work with parties to develop an interview protocol in order for the parties to have an opportunity to present questions to a select number of potential arbitrator candidates, either through a telephone conference, or in writing. Examples of interview question topics might include: industry expertise, relative experience in similar disputes, the arbitrator's procedural handling practices, and any other questions that the parties would find helpful to the selection process.



Block listing

For cases involving three-arbitrator panels, the AAA can provide separate lists of arbitrators to the parties, each one containing arbitrators with a specified background or level of expertise, *i.e.*, one list of retired judges, one list of attorneys and one list of business and industry experts.

Streamlined Three Arbitrator Panel Option

In cases where the rules or the parties' agreement requires a panel of three arbitrators to hear and decide the case, the *Streamlined Three Arbitrator Panel Option* allows parties to move through the preliminary and exchange of information (discovery) stages of a case working with a single arbitrator. The full panel would then participate in the evidentiary hearing and render the final award on the case.

For additional information on the Streamlined Panel Option, please refer to the fact sheet available on our website at www.adr.org.

Parties know how important the selection of the right arbitrator is in having an effective arbitration process. The above services can give the parties confidence that they have met that goal. This service is offered at no additional cost and your AAA contact will help facilitate an agreement during an administrative conference.

We encourage the parties to work together to agree on as many procedures as possible and we will work to try to find a process that is agreeable to everyone. However, if after full discussion with the parties, an agreement is not reached, the AAA will administer the case in accordance with the standard arbitrator selection process outlined in the rules.

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