

Notice of Mandatory Parent Education Class for Parents

Effective March 1, 2009, the Family Court of St. Louis County requires that all parents who are seeking a divorce (legally known as dissolution of marriage), a legal separation, declaration of paternity or petition for custody or who are seeking to modify a prior order which involves issues of child custody or visitation and who have in common at least one child under age 19 must attend a Parent Education Class sponsored through the Court. This class covers divorce, legal separation, paternity determinations or custody action or modifications of prior order and its impact on adults as well as children, and presents ways to help the family cope with changes resulting from these proceedings. The class focuses on increasing cooperation between parents with an emphasis upon reducing potential trauma for children. The parent who files the petition for divorce or legal separation, paternity or custody or a motion to modify a prior order ("petitioner") must attend class within 45 days after filing the petition or motion; the other parent ("respondent") must attend class within 45 days after service of the petition or motion, or the filing of a voluntary entry of appearance and waiver. The petitioner and respondent will be scheduled to attend separate classes. Please have your cause number available to give to the scheduler when you call. Several locations and class times are available each week. **Effective March 1, 2009 the cost is \$50.00 per person and attendance is reported to the Court. To schedule yourself for a class as soon as possible, call St. Louis County Parent Education Program at (314) 863-3310.**

For more information visit [http:// www.stlparenteducation.com/](http://www.stlparenteducation.com/)
