

Sample referral rule from courts

In order that parents in marital dissolution (divorce) and paternity cases have the best opportunity to protect themselves and their children, the court orders as follows.

- (1) Whenever parents in a dissolution of marriage case (divorce) or paternity case have one or more children under age 18, they must complete the work on UpToParents.org and file with the court their Certificate of Completion. Certificates of Completion must be filed:
 - a. In dissolution (divorce cases) within 21 days of the filing of a petition for dissolution;
 - b. In paternity cases within 21 days of the court's finding of paternity.
- (2) The "Certificate of Completion" must be attached as an exhibit to a pleading entitled, "Certificate of Completion of [parent's name] from UpToParents.org" and reading in substance, "Attached is a copy of the Certificate of Completion showing that on [date] [name of parent] completed the Commitments work on UpToParents.org." Blank forms of this pleading are available in [identify office].

[An alternative where parents are sent to a class and completion of the website work is confirmed there]:

- (1) Whenever parents in a dissolution of marriage case (divorce) or paternity case have one or more children under the age of 18, they must attend the "Parents as Partners" class. The deadline for that attendance is:
 - a. In a dissolution of marriage case (divorce) within 30 days of the filing of a petition for dissolution of marriage, and
 - b. In a paternity case, within 30 days of the finding of paternity.

Parents must call the office of the "Parents as Partners" class at 202-555-8181 sufficiently in advance to arrange to attend the class.

- (2) As preparation for that class, parents must complete the work on UpToParents.org and take to the class copies of their Commitments, Exercise Responses, and Certificate of Conclusion available from links on the Conclusion page that will appear when the website is complete. Parents must bring these copied materials to their class to receive confirmation of attendance and credit for completion of the class requirement.