

## **MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS**

Any person may become a Member of the Collaborative Professionals of Southeast Louisiana (CPGSEL) by meeting the following requirements for membership:

1. Be a legal, mental health, financial, or other professional licensed and in good standing in the State of Louisiana and/or having such professional certifications as are required or permitted by law and approved by the Board of Directors to accept and provide services to clients in the Collaborative Process.
2. Have received at least two days of introductory training in the Collaborative Process, through a training seminar approved by the Board of Directors or Membership Committee of CPGSEL, together with such additional training as the Board of Directors may require.
3. Have completed a minimum number of continuing education units related to the Collaborative Process through training approved by the Board of Directors, which training may also qualify for other professional continuing education credits.
4. Pay annual dues as established from time to time by the Board of Directors.
5. Conduct Collaborative Practice in accordance with the multi-disciplinary model utilizing mental health, legal, and financial professionals who have met the membership requirements of CPGSEL.
6. Maintain professional liability insurance.

In addition to these requirements, specific requirements for each professional are as follows:

### **Legal Professional Requirements**

All legal professionals must be licensed and in good standing. Ongoing experience in family law, mediation and Couples Communication (MATS) training are highly recommended.

### **Mental Health Professional and Child Specialist Requirements**

All mental health professionals/coaches will be required to complete the Couple Communication 1 & 2 Instructor Training Workshop offered by a certified instructor within one year of CPGSEL membership.

If a mental health professional/coach accepts a client and has not completed the above, he or she is strongly recommended to engage a mentor coach (someone who has completed the above and has collaborative experience) to facilitate a safe learning environment for the mental health professional and client.

### **Financial Professional Requirements**

To qualify as a financial professional in CPGSEL, an individual must be a CPA, CFP®, ChFp, or CDFA in good standing.

Specific training as a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA) or ongoing experience of working within the field of divorce is also recommended. Only financial professionals who are able to work as fee-for-service will be able to qualify for membership. Couples Communication (MATS) training is also recommended.