



How Much Does Mediation Cost?

HIAMP can provide mediation services on the issues listed here for free. HIAMP receives a grant from USDA to help pay for mediation services for the agricultural community in Hawaii. For issues outside the USDA program, we can offer assistance at a low cost.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



How to Request Assistance?

It's easy. Just call, e-mail, or fill out a request mediation form available on our website.

For More information contact:

Peter Adler or Matt Strassberg
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Hawaii Agricultural Mediation Program





How We Can Help?

Running a farm is challenging. Narrow financial margins can create problems with lenders and unsecured creditors. Complex federal programs can lead to disagreements over program eligibility and compliance. Uncooperative weather can bring losses and problems with insurance claims.

That's where we come in. *We grow solutions* to some of the problems that farmers face everywhere.

What is Mediation?

Mediation is an informal way to resolve problems by utilizing an impartial person to assist parties negotiate their differences. The mediator does not have decision-making authority and does not determine who is legally right or wrong. The mediator helps the parties by facilitating the discussion, identifying and clarifying the issues, and exploring options to resolve the problem.



What is the Hawaii Agricultural Mediation Program (HIAMP)?

HIAMP is the official agricultural mediation program for the State of Hawaii certified by the USDA and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. HIAMP is a program of the non-profit Environmental Mediation Center. HIAMP has mediators on staff and contracts with private mediators on all islands to help you resolve problems through an informal process before they get more complicated and costly.

"The Hawaii Agricultural Mediation Program provides producers, lenders, and others in the agricultural community in Hawaii free mediation services on a variety of agricultural disputes. Mediation is a non-confrontational way to resolve disputes that often saves parties time and money. Should you be involved in an agricultural dispute, please contact the program to see if they can help you resolve the issue." - Russell S. Kokubun, Chairperson, Board of Agriculture, State of Hawaii



Why Use Mediation?

Mediation offers several advantages because the process

- * Allows the parties to tailor solutions to meet their interests
- * Leaves the decision-making authority with the parties
- * Helps restore and preserve important relationships
- * Is usually cheaper and faster than other methods to resolve problems

What Kinds of Problems and Issues Can Be Mediated?

- * Adverse Decisions from USDA agencies
- * Compliance Issues with USDA Programs
- * Farm and Rural Development Loans
- * Other credit problems
- * Wetlands Determinations
- * Crop Insurance
- * Pesticide Issues
- * Other Agricultural Disputes