

DAKOTA COUNTY FAMILY COURT DIVISION
SOCIAL EARLY NEUTRAL EVALUATION (SENE)
FEE STRUCTURE
(updated 4.9.2019)

Each party is responsible for payment of fees for SENE, which shall be individually determined using the fee structure set forth below.

Parties may opt to participate in SENE with either one evaluator or a two-person team of evaluators. For a two-person team of evaluators, the parties' combined SENE fee shall be divided equally between the evaluators.

Each SENE evaluator is required to accept low fee cases if selected by the parties.

ONE-EVALUATOR SENE

I. Represented parties (non-pro-bono attorney):

If a party is represented by an attorney, then the party's hourly SENE rate shall be one-half the hourly rate charged by the party's attorney. If a party is represented by more than one attorney, then the party's hourly SENE rate shall be one-half the highest hourly attorney-rate charged to the party.

II. Unrepresented parties and parties with pro-bono (no fee) representation:

If a party is not represented by an attorney, or is represented by a pro-bono attorney, then the party shall pay SENE fees according to the following sliding-fee scale:

Party's Gross Annual Income	Party's SENE Fees
<i>In Forma Pauperis</i> (IFP)	Flat fee of \$50 for each SENE session
\$0 to \$25,000	\$25 per hour
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$50 per hour
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$75 per hour
\$100,001 to \$150,000	\$150 per hour
>\$150,000	\$200 per hour

TWO-EVALUATOR SENE

I. Represented parties (non-pro-bono attorney):

If a party is represented by an attorney, the party's hourly SENE rate shall be the hourly rate charged by the party's attorney. If a party is represented by more than one attorney, the party's hourly SENE rate shall be the highest hourly attorney-rate charged to the party.

II. Unrepresented parties and parties with pro-bono (no fee) representation:

If a party is not represented by an attorney, or is represented by a pro-bono attorney, then the party shall pay SENE fees according to the following sliding-fee scale:

Party's Gross Annual Income	Party's SENE Fees
<i>In Forma Pauperis</i> (IFP)	Flat fee of \$50 for each SENE session
\$0 to \$25,000	\$50 per hour
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$100 per hour
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$150 per hour
\$100,001 to \$150,000	\$300 per hour
>\$150,000	\$400 per hour