

Enhancing Judicial Bench Skills

July 20 - 23, 2026
Portland, Oregon

Tuition: \$1,979
Conf. fee: \$549



THE NATIONAL
JUDICIAL COLLEGE

Are you looking to refresh your approach on the bench? As an increase in polarization and decline in civility spill into the courtroom, judges are often tasked with bringing a calm and professional voice to emotional and heated proceedings.

Join the National Judicial College to learn tried and true tactics on dealing with challenging people, managing self-represented litigants, and handling contempt and trial disruption in the traditional courtroom setting and on remote hearings. In this course, judges will learn to improve their communication, listening and case management skills with an aim at reducing frustration and increasing civility for all parties. Sessions will also include working with juries, courtroom security, and judicial ethics. The presentations include structured activities designed to impart tips and techniques that can be immediately applied in the courtroom. Regardless of your career stage, you will receive comprehensive materials and expert insights to help. Small discussion groups and role playing exercises will be used throughout the course.

"

The best educational course I have ever attended. This should be a requirement for judges. Thought provoking and so many tools to use in real situations."

— 2024 participant

More info:

judges.org/courses/enhancing-judicial-bench-skills-2/

Learning Objectives:

- Demonstrate effective communication behaviors on the bench.
- More effectively work with self-represented litigants.
- Promote civility while effectively making decisions in traditional and non-traditional ways.
- Handle trial disruptions with confidence while exercising contempt power with restraint.
- Apply innovative jury trial techniques.
- Recognize the judge's role in managing cases effectively.
- Discuss viable court security options both in the courtroom and for remote proceedings.
- Maintain high ethical standards while presiding on the bench or remotely.
- Employ methods to improve personal wellness and better handle the stress of the job in a time of change.

Established in 1963, the NJC is a nonprofit organization and the only educational institution in the U.S. that teaches judges of all types from across the 50 states, Indian Country and abroad.

Contact Us:

800.255.8343

info@judges.org

judges.org