Under Iowa Rule of Juvenile Procedure 8.36 (2020), court appointed attorneys who represent parents in juvenile court proceedings are required to participate annually in a minimum of three hours of continuing legal education (CLE). That CLE must relate to juvenile court proceedings. Iowa R. Juv. P. 8.36(1).

For the continuing legal education to qualify, in addition to other criteria outlined in the rule, the course must be approved by Iowa Children’s Justice. Iowa R. Juv. P. 8.36(2).

To seek approval from Iowa Children’s Justice, a process must be followed. First, the course must be submitted to the Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) for approval as a CLE. After OPR approval, the facilitator or entity requesting special designation must then provide Children’s Justice with the following information for submission to a committee for approval. Submissions should be emailed to IowaChildrens.Justice@iowacourts.gov

1. The name of the CLE
2. Date of the CLE
3. Format of the CLE
   a. If in person, location of the CLE
   b. If in a virtual format, a link to the CLE
4. The sponsor of the CLE
5. Total CLE hours approved
6. Ethics hours, if approved for ethics
7. The activity number
8. A description of the CLE and agenda
9. The presenter

Following submission to the committee, if approved for the special designation the CLE will be placed on the Children’s Justice webpage. Iowa Children’s Justice maintains a record of current and past approved courses on their judicial branch webpage.

The current list can be found under Approved Juvenile CLE.

The webpage can be found at: https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/juvenile-court/childrens-justice-initiative/approved-juvenile-cle/