

ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy

North America

New York | Houston |
San Francisco | Montreal

September 2026 - September 2027

Application period: March 19-May 12, 2026

Working language

English

Contact

DRSLearning@iccwbo.org

Program Description

The ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy, developed by the ICC Institute of World Business Law, is a comprehensive and practice-oriented professional training program tailored for experienced arbitration practitioners who are interested in pursuing a career as an arbitrator.

Administered over a one-year period, the program covers the main stages of the arbitration proceedings from an arbitrator's point of view on the basis of a mock case scenario under ICC Arbitration Rules. It will cover issues related to constitution of the arbitral tribunal, jurisdiction of the tribunal, case management, provisional remedies, evidence, hearing, deliberations, award and scrutiny.

The program includes assignments, group work and eight in-person, mandatory workshops in a range of cities in North America. The in-person workshops will take place in one or two days, approximately every three or four months.

In each workshop, participants are expected to actively engage in simulations, practical activities and rich discussions with prominent arbitrators, arbitration experts and representatives of the Secretariat of ICC International Court of Arbitration.

The ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for North America is limited to approximately 40 participants.

Learning Outcomes

Participants who successfully complete the course will have acquired a strong command of the arbitration techniques and procedures and shall be capable of acting as arbitrators in international arbitration cases, with a particular focus on ICC Arbitration Rules.

This program is also a unique opportunity for exchanging and networking with leading professionals in the field.

Who Should Attend?

This advanced-level professional training is designed primarily for senior and upper mid-level arbitration practitioners interested in pursuing a career as an arbitrator.

Participants must have an advanced knowledge of the English language and sufficient experience in international arbitration.

Program Co-Chairs



Brian King

Independent Arbitrator



Christina Hioureas

Partner and Global Co-Chair, International Litigation & Arbitration Department, Foley Hoag; Chair, United Nations Practice Group, New York



Fabien Gélinas

Independent Arbitrator; Professor of Law, McGill University



Jennifer Kirby

International Arbitrator

Tentative Workshop Dates and Locations

- Workshop 1 | September 2026 | New York, NY, United States of America
- Workshop 2 | January 2027 | Houston, TX, United States of America
- Workshop 3-4 | April 2027 | San Francisco, CA, United States of America
- Workshop 5-6 | June 2027 | Montreal, QC, Canada
- Workshop 7-8 | September 2027 | New York, NY, United States of America

The precise venues will be indicated as the program goes along. Each workshop will generally last from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, with breaks for coffee and lunch.

Program Structure

Each workshop will feature prominent professionals who will engage in activities with the participants. The list of guest speakers will be provided in due course. Please note that the program content and structure remain subject to modifications.

Workshop 1: Appointment as an Arbitrator

Topics

- Standards, mechanics and procedures
 - General standards concerning the appointment of arbitrators
 - Accepting nomination as an arbitrator by a party or by the co-arbitrators
 - Appointment as an arbitrator by the ICC Court
 - Selecting the president of the tribunal
 - Replacement / resignation of an arbitrator
- Independence and impartiality
 - Completing the Statement of Acceptance, Availability, Impartiality and Independence
 - Disclosure obligations
 - Objections to confirmation by the ICC Court
 - Challenges of arbitrator
- Other aspects
 - Financial aspects of accepting an appointment
 - Communications with the ICC Court and the Secretariat
 - Confidentiality obligations / *ex parte* communications
 - ICC Connect profile creation and update

Tasks

- Arbitrator's CV
- Statement of Acceptance, Availability, Impartiality, and Independence
- Report on a practical situation

Workshop 2: Case management

Topics

- Organising the work of the Arbitral Tribunal
- Effective case management under the ICC Rules
- Arbitrating small claims and expedited procedure provisions: ICC Rules and guidelines
- Procedural Order No. 1
- Provisional timetable
- Midstream conferences and clarificatory questions to the parties
- ICC Connect for managing arbitration cases and communication

Tasks

- Draft the Procedural Order No. 1
- Draft the Procedural Timetable

Workshop 3: Jurisdiction of Tribunal

Topics

- Procedural issues relating to jurisdictional objections
 - Bifurcation
 - Competence-competence
 - Parallel proceedings
 - Anti-arbitration injunctions
 - Nature of decision (interim/partial/final award)
 - Scrutiny by the ICC Court
- Substantive issues relating to jurisdictional decisions
 - Jurisdiction vs. admissibility
 - Wording of arbitration agreements
 - Escalation clauses / pre-arbitration procedure
 - Extension of arbitration agreements to non-signatories (group of companies doctrine, States, guarantors)
 - Arbitrability
 - Multiparty and multi-contract arbitrations

Tasks

- Draft a report on a practical situation
- Partial award on jurisdiction

Workshop 4: Provisional Remedies

Topics

- Conservatory and interim measures
- Procedure
- Criteria
- Countersecurity
- Procedural hearing
- Remedies in case of non-compliance
- Decision on interim measures: procedural order or award?
- Cost orders when party substitutes for other party's non-payment
- Anti-arbitration injunctions

Tasks

- Draft a procedural order on one of the following issues:
 - Attachment of assets (emergency Arbitrator Order)
 - Security for Costs

Workshop 5: Evidence

Topics

- IBA Rules on the Taking of Evidence
- Data/document production
- Scope of discovery; Criteria for ordering document production; Procedure of document production; Tribunal's role in document production; IT in arbitration
- Expert reports, examination of experts and expert conferencing
- Party-appointed vs. tribunal-appointed expert
- Witness statements and site inspection

Tasks

- Draft a procedural order on production of documents

Workshop 6: Hearing

Topics

- Preparation for the hearing
- Organisational issues
 - Booking premises
 - Interpretation, transcripts and associated costs
 - Pre-hearing conference
 - Remote hearing protocol
- Management of hearings
 - Setting the dates and timeframes
 - Setting the schedule for the hearing
 - Housekeeping issues
- Conduct of the hearing including time keeping, tribunal dynamics
 - Adversarial v. inquisitorial style
 - Agenda of the hearing
 - Allocation of time between the parties
 - Examination and cross-examination of witnesses
 - Admissible/non-admissible conduct

Tasks

- Draft an agenda for the pre-hearing video conference
- Draft a procedural order for the hearing
- Draft a report on a practical situation

Workshop 7: Post-Hearing Phase, Deliberating & Deciding

Topics

- Determining the post-hearing phase
 - Post-hearing submissions? Oral, written or both?
 - Questions from the tribunal?
 - Dealing with missing or imperfect submissions
 - Costs submissions? Directions on level of detail?
 - Closing of submissions
 - Deadline for submitting the award for scrutiny
 - Deadline for rendering the award
- Award Part I
 - Organising deliberations
 - How to reach consensus
 - Dealing with entrenched differences (including dissenting and concurring opinions)
 - Allocating the drafting work among the arbitrators
 - The role of tribunal secretaries during the deliberations and drafting phase

Tasks

- Draft a procedural order on post-hearing phase

Workshop 8: Drafting Enforceable Awards

Topics

- Structuring and drafting awards
- Scrutiny by the ICC Court
- Signing and notification of the award
- Correction, interpretation and remission of awards
- Making enforceable awards
- Enforcement proceedings
- Setting aside proceedings, incl. being sued or made party to a setting aside application
- Immunity from suit
- AI in drafting the arbitral awards
- Role of tribunal secretaries

Tasks

- Draft the final award

Workshop Details

The ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for North America is organized over one year and includes eight in-person workshops delivered during one or two-day meetings, taking place approximately every three or four months in different countries in North America.

At each session the participants will be provided with a list of required and recommended reading for the next session. The session colloquia shall be structured on the assumption that the participants have completed the assignments.

In workshops, the participants will:

- Discuss the assignments they completed and documents they drafted before the workshops;
- Analyse practical situations based on ICC cases;
- Engage in simulations, such as mock hearings on the procedure and merits;
- Discuss with Co-Chairs and speakers the different practical situations, legal and practical questions.

Participation in the workshops is essential. Case study materials and assignments will be provided electronically. Participants will be expected to organize their materials for each workshop. Participants will be responsible for purchasing reading materials if required.

Registration Fees

US\$ 4,500 (20% VAT will be applied)

The registration fee covers two coffee breaks, lunch, and ICC workshop materials for each workshop. Training activities are subject to last-minute changes and modifications by the organizers.

Admission

Only successful applications will be asked to pay the registration fee. Admission is guaranteed only if candidates have completed the payment within the given timeline. On registering for this program, participants commit to attending all eight workshops and should consider the costs associated with travelling to all mentioned cities.

Travel and accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. There are no scholarship or registration waivers available for this program. ICC is able to dispatch visa invitation letters to support visa applications only after the receipt of full payment of registration fees.

Cancellation policy

Participants are eligible for a refund of their registration fee if a cancellation request is submitted in writing before August 31, 2026. However, this will incur a cancellation fee which must be covered by the participant. Any cancellation after the mentioned date is not refundable.

Please note that ICC reserves the right to cancel this event or to make minor alterations to the content and timing of the program or to the identity of the speakers. In the unlikely event of cancellation, delegates will be offered a full refund. ICC will not, however, be held responsible for any related expenses.

How to Apply?

Submit your application on [ICC Knowledge 2 Go](#) before May 12, 2026 at 23:59 (EDT).

Applicants will be required to submit their CV and cover letter. These documents should include your educational background and work experience with details of any arbitration-related experience, such as the number of years, the number of cases, and whether it was full-time or part-time. In your cover letter, please describe your motivation for joining the program, contributions to arbitration and dispute resolution, as well as your aspirations to become an arbitrator. We recommend limiting your response to under 1,000 words.

Please address all your enquiries to DRSLearning@iccwbo.org.

Selection Criteria

- While we prioritize applicants residing and/or practising in North America, we also welcome applicants from outside the region;
- While the minimum professional experience requirement for this program is five years, a preference will be given for applicants with more than 10 years of experience in the practice of arbitration;
- Advanced level in English is required as all instructions, assignments, and workshops will be conducted in English;
- Contributions to the development of arbitration in the region are desirable; and
- Strong motivation and commitment to the program.

Certificates

A certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the course to provide public recognition of the completion of the program. The certificate shall only be given to those participants who attended at least seven workshops and successfully completed 100% of the exercises.

Testimonials from Alumni



“The Academy has had a meaningful impact on my career and practice. It strengthened my confidence in handling international arbitration matters and enhanced my ability to advise clients strategically at every stage of a dispute. One of my favorite parts of the Academy was the interactive format. Rather than simply listening to lectures, we worked through practical scenarios, debated strategic decisions, and analyzed real-world procedural issues under the ICC framework. This hands-on approach made the learning experience far more impactful.”

Sarah Reynolds

Partner, Head of International & Domestic Arbitration, Kaplan & Grady



“Participating in the ICC Advanced Arbitration Academy for North America was a genuinely valuable professional development experience — one that I expect will continue to shape my practice for years to come. The program offered a rare opportunity to step back from the day-to-day demands of my practice as counsel and enabled me to refocus on how the process actually works from the other side of the table. Understanding how arbitrators approach case management, evaluate submissions, and deliberate on procedural decisions has made me a more thoughtful advocate for my clients.”

Zach Torres-Fowler

Partner, Troutman Pepper Locke



“The ICC Advanced Academy is a masterclass for sophisticated practitioners seeking to elevate their expertise in ICC arbitrations.”

Timothy Hughes

Principal, Timothy Hughes Arbitration



“I can say it was one of the best professional decisions I’ve made. I still find myself going back to the lessons I learned — not only from the incredible faculty, but also from the program participants I met along the way.”

Olga Zalomiy

Principal, Law Offices of Olga Zalomiy

About ICC

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is the institutional representative of more than 45 million companies in over 170 countries. ICC's core mission is to make business work for everyone, every day, everywhere. Through a unique mix of advocacy, solutions and standard setting, we promote international trade, responsible business conduct and a global approach to regulation, in addition to providing market-leading dispute resolution services. Our members include many of the world's leading companies, SMEs, business associations and local chambers of commerce. www.iccwbo.org

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The ICC International Court of Arbitration

The International Court of Arbitration is the world's leading arbitral institution. Since 1923, it has administered over 29,000 cases and has helped resolve difficulties in international commercial and business disputes to support trade and investment.

The Court provides parties with a flexible and neutral setting for dispute resolution. It offers confidentiality and extraordinary freedom for parties to choose the framework for how and where they want to resolve their dispute. While the dispute itself is resolved by independent arbitrators, the Court supervises the process from beginning to end, increasing the quality of the process and enforceability of the awards.

For more information, visit:
www.iccwbo.org/arbitration

The ICC Institute of World Business Law

The ICC Institute of World Business Law acts as a think-tank working closely with the ICC International Court of Arbitration.

Created over 40 years ago, the Institute provides research, training and information to the legal profession concerned with the development of international business law. In line with ICC's philosophy of excellence, the Institute proposes publications, trainings and conferences on a range of topics related to international business law.

For more information, visit:
www.iccinstitute.org