

RULE CHANGE 2026(11)

COLORADO RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Rules 1 and 16.2

Rule 1. Scope of Rules

(a) Procedure Governed. These rules govern the procedure in the supreme court, court of appeals, district courts, and in the juvenile and probate courts of the City and County of Denver, in all actions, suits and proceedings of a civil nature, whether cognizable as cases at law or in equity, and in all special statutory proceedings, with the exceptions stated in Rule 81. These rules shall be liberally construed, administered, and employed by the court and the parties to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action.

Rules of civil procedure governing county courts shall be in accordance with Chapter 25 of this volume. Rules of Procedure governing probate courts and probate proceedings in the district courts shall be in accordance with these rules and Chapter 27 of this volume. (In case of conflict between rules, those set forth in Chapter 27 shall control.) Rules of Procedure governing juvenile courts and juvenile proceedings in the district courts shall be in accordance with these rules and Chapter 28 made effective on the same date as these rules. (In case of conflict between rules, those set forth in Chapter 28 shall control.) Any action involving a “child custody proceeding,” as defined in 25 U.S.C. §§ 1903, 1912 and section 19-1.2-103(2), C.R.S., must proceed in accordance with the Colorado Rules of ICWA Procedure, as contained in Chapter 28.3 of the Colorado Court Rules. Rules of Procedure in Municipal Courts are in Chapter 30.

(b) to (d) [NO CHANGE]

COMMENTS [NO CHANGE]

Rule 16.2. Court Facilitated Management of Domestic Relations Cases and General Provisions Governing Duty of Disclosure

(a) Purpose and Scope. Family members stand in a special relationship to one another and to the court system. It is the purpose of Rule 16.2 to provide a uniform procedure for resolution of all issues in domestic relations cases that reduces the negative impact of adversarial litigation wherever possible. To that end, this Rule contemplates management and facilitation of the case by the court, with the disclosure requirements, discovery and hearings tailored to the needs of the case. This Rule shall govern case management in all district court actions under Articles 10, 11 and 13 of Title 14 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, including post decree matters. The Child Support Enforcement Unit (CSEU) shall be exempted under this Rule unless the CSEU enters an appearance in an ongoing case. Upon the motion of any party or the court's own motion, the court may order that this Rule shall govern juvenile, paternity or probate cases involving allocation of parental responsibilities (decision-making and parenting time), child support and related matters. Any notice or service of process referenced in this Rule shall be governed by the Colorado Rules of Civil Procedure. Any action involving a “child custody proceeding,” as defined in 25 U.S.C. §§ 1903, 1912 and section 19-1.2-103(2), C.R.S., must proceed in accordance with the Colorado Rules of ICWA Procedure, as contained in Chapter 28.3 of the Colorado Court Rules.

(b) to (j) [NO CHANGE]

COMMENTS [NO CHANGE]

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(b) to (j) [NO CHANGE]

COMMENTS [NO CHANGE]

Amended and Adopted by the Court, En Banc, April 23, 2026, effective immediately.

By the Court:

**Richard L. Gabriel
Justice, Colorado Supreme Court**