



## Annexation Arbitration Process Timeline

	Phase 1		Phase 2			Phase 3	Conclusion
	Pre-Process Steps	Day 1	Days 2 - 15			Up to 59 Days following Panel Appointment	No Later than the 60 <sup>th</sup> day**
<b>City</b>	Issues notification of annexation petition		Assign a Case Coordinator	The City will receive a list of potential panelists from DCA and submit their chosen strikes from this list back to DCA.		Work with Arbitration Panel	<p>The Panel of Arbiters must render its decision on or before the 60<sup>th</sup> day following its appointment. The panel's findings shall be detailed in writing and provided to the affected parties and DCA by verifiable delivery.</p>
<b>County</b>	Issues notification of objection to annexation		Assign a Case Coordinator	The County will receive a list of potential panelists from DCA and submit their chosen strikes from this list back to DCA.		Work with Arbitration Panel	
<b>DCA</b>		Receives complete petition for annexation arbitration. Verifies standing, completeness, and timeliness.	DCA works to prepare list of potential arbiters and confirms availability and commitment. Once complete DCA will provide strikes to the City and County.		Review the strikes from the County and City and confirm any details. Then, issue notice to the City, County, Arbiters, GMA, ACCG, staff, impacted school system, RC planning director of panel appointment.		
<b>GMA/ACCG</b>	Advisory Role		Advisory Role			Advisory Role	

\* At any point in the process, the municipal corporation and the county may by mutual agreement, postpone the arbitration procession for a period of up to 180 days to negotiate a potential settlement, and such postponement shall stay the 60-day deadline. While postponement may be requested more than once, the total time postponed during the arbitration process shall not exceed a cumulative 180 days. *O.C.G.A. 36-36-115(a)(1)(A)*

\*\* The chairperson of the arbitration panel is authorized to extend the deadline one time for a period of up to ten business days, solely, to allow the panel additional time to produce its findings. *O.C.G.A. 36-36-115(a)(1)(A)*

This chart provides a visual representation of the process described in O.C.G.A. 36-36-110, et seq. for resolving interjurisdiction disputes from local government territorial annexation proceedings. It offers informal, interpretive guidance and should not be considered regulatory in nature and does not supersede any statute or agency rules. For forms and additional information about alternative dispute resolution, please visit our website: [www.dca.ga.gov](http://www.dca.ga.gov).

For more information or clarification of this process please contact the Office of Planning at 404-679-5279 or [planning@dca.ga.gov](mailto:planning@dca.ga.gov)