

Position: Interpreter II	Salary Range: 42
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Summary

Provide sign language interpretation between teachers, hearing students and other members of the school community and students who are deaf or hard of hearing (D/HH). Skill level is proficient to provide access to curriculum for students in grades preschool to high school senior.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The Sign Language Interpreter II has advanced skills, training, and experience in interpretation. This classification is based upon passage of statewide approved interpreter certification assessments, certified active membership with Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf (RID), and holding a Bachelor's degree.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Act as a resource person for teachers, providing orientation about deafness and tips for working with D/HH students. Provide information for the teacher about the role of an interpreter.
- Provide mentoring for an Interpreter I to facilitate their professional development.
- Conduct training of other interpreters or educators.
- Facilitate the ongoing acquisition of sign language skills for students and staff.
- Interpret for D/HH students in a variety of education environments, including general education and special education.
- Recognize and adjust interpretive language to match the student's preferred language and language mode to ensure that the student comprehends the interpretation.
- Interpret for students in all academic subject areas in a variety of settings, i.e. integrated classroom lectures, discussions, assemblies, meetings with teachers and counselors, etc.
- Interpret for parent conferences, IEP meetings and other school-sponsored activities, including field trips, plays and extracurricular activities, as needed.
- Prepare for interpretation by previewing texts and researching technically correct signs for new vocabulary.
- Establish the physical setting to optimize communication.
- Orient teachers to deafness and advise on ways the teacher can help a deaf student be successful in their classroom.
- Consult with teachers, instructional assistants, resource staff, other school personnel and parents concerning useful programs and materials to meet student needs. Alert teachers to any special problems or information concerning students in assigned programs.
- May assist school sites with the implementation of the IEP as assigned and confer with teachers and specialists in the development of individual and group goals and objectives.
- Communicate with students, staff, parents, and the public using tact, diplomacy and courtesy in sometimes confrontational or stressful situations.
- Maintain confidentiality to protect privacy of students, families, and staff.
- Adhere to the Professional Code of Conduct established by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

Qualifications

▪ Knowledge and Skills

The position requires well-developed knowledge and skill of American Sign Language, both interpretation and transliteration. The Interpreter should have special knowledge of working with deaf and hard of hearing student populations, including the educational implications of hearing loss, the nature of deafness, and its effect on language development. Considerable communications skills are required to project a positive image and to interact in both formal and informal settings with a wide variety of consumers. The Interpreter also needs to have a working knowledge of ergonomic modifications to reduce repetitive stress injuries.

▪ Abilities

- To be knowledgeable of a variety of sign language and systems, e.g. American Sign Language, Conceptually Accurate Signed English, Pidgin Signed English.
- To utilize Visual English and American Sign Language and demonstrate ability to understand and be understood by a variety of students at different age levels.
- To facilitate communication between a student and the student's teacher that reflects a "sense of the whole message," rather than just a technically correct translation of words used.
- To demonstrate interpersonal and professional skills with the ability to interact effectively with peers, supervisors, children and parents, utilizing tact, patience and courtesy.
- To work effectively and supportively as a member of an interpreting team.
- Excellent English skills in speaking, reading, writing, grammar, and punctuation.
- To set personal goals for ongoing proficiency development.
- To feel comfortable in highly visible roles, yet maintaining an unimposing presence.
- To learn and incorporate new signs and terminology quickly.
- To draw on a broad spectrum of knowledge in humanities, sciences and the arts.
- To interpret in high academic general education and advanced level (AP) classes.
- To utilize good knowledge and good judgment on issues of ethics, culture, and professionalism.
- To adapt quickly to unfamiliar work sites or challenging environments.
- To remain focused despite multiple distractions (noise, conversations, etc.)

▪ Physical Abilities

Requires well-developed arm, hand, finger dexterity in order to perform advanced sign language interpretation. Requires visual acuity to recognize numbers and words, and detect speech patterns. Requires the ability to carry on conversation with students, teachers, and parents in person.

▪ Education and Experience

Passage of statewide required certification assessments, completion of an Interpreter Training Program, active certified membership with the Registry of Interpreter's for the Deaf (RID), and a Bachelor's degree.

▪ Licenses and Certificates

Depending upon assignment, a valid California driver's license and/or first aid training may be required.