

What is an Educational Interpreter?

A person employed in the Idaho public schools, kindergarten through grade twelve (12), to provide interpreting services to students who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind.

What is “Interpreting”?

The process of providing accessible communication between and among persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf-blind, and those who are hearing. The process includes, but is not limited to, communication between American Sign Language or other form of manual communication and English. The process may also involve various other modalities that involve visual, gestural and tactile methods.

What Regulations Govern Educational Interpreting?

The Idaho Statute, TITLE 33, CHAPTER 13 is called the “Idaho Educational Interpreter Act”. It requires a minimum standard level of skill for educational interpreters.

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title33/T33CH13.htm>

What is the Minimum Standard?

- Achieved a score of 3.5 or higher on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA).

Or is certified by one of the following:

- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf;
- NAD, level III or higher (test is no longer available and it must have been kept current/valid).

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To Learn More About Educational Interpreting

Website Recommendations:

<http://www.classroominterpreting.org>
<http://www.interpretereducation.org>
<http://www.rid.org>
<http://www.idahorid.org>

Book Recommendations:

So You Want to Be an Interpreter? An Introduction to Sign Language Interpreting

By Janice H. Humphrey and Bob J. Alcorn, 1995

This book is an easy-to-read introduction to the field. It includes information on the interpreting process, history, trends and issues in the field, sign language varieties, cultural considerations, ethics, and the job market.

Sign Language Interpreting: A Basic Resource Book (Revised Edition)

By Sharon Neumann Solow, 2000

A basic introduction to the field of interpreting, including the role of the interpreter, sign language systems, an orientation to the Deaf community, ethics, and interpreting in various settings.

Best Practices in Educational Interpreting

By Brenda Chafin Seal

This book is an introduction to the field of educational interpreting, including best practices in the administration of educational interpreting services.

Educational Interpreting Support



Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind

Serving students in Idaho since 1906



Support for Educational Interpreters and School Districts/LEA's

School District Support:

- Act as a liaison with other state agencies and professionals, present information/in-services as requested.
- Assist LEA's with interviews and hiring process of educational interpreters.
- Assist in the development of Educational Interpreter Roles and Responsibilities, Job Description, or other documentation.

Educational Interpreter Support:

- Maintain an email distribution list and disseminate:
 - *workshop and training information
 - *EIPA testing opportunities
 - *Misc. information that is relevant
- Be available for support and provide professional guidance and feedback.
- Assist with providing in-services/training opportunities for the educational team working with an educational interpreter and a child with a hearing loss.



General Support:

- Act as a general resource for information.
- Provide EIPA testing opportunities, performance and written.
- Coordinate trainings and skill development workshops (as budget allows) for educational interpreters to help satisfy the 80 hours of training every five years required by the Idaho Educational Interpreter Act.
- Maintain and update the "Educational Interpreter's Corner" on the IESDB website.
- Collaborate with interpreter training programs and professional organizations supporting the profession of interpreting.
- Collect data from post-training evaluations for reporting and planning needs.
- Stay current on "best-practices" and research.



EIPA - Local Test Administration

IESDB and the State Department of Education recognize the importance of testing opportunities and support for the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment. Idaho is a member of TASK-12 (Training and Assessment Systems for K-12 interpreters) for testing and training opportunities.

<http://www.taese.org/cms/index.php/task12>

