



New Mexico Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

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Website: www.cdhh.nm.gov

Interpreters Moving to New Mexico

For more information contact:

nmcdhh.info@cdhh.nm.gov

505.383.6530 Voice/TTY

505.435.9319 Videophone for Sign Language Users

New Mexico has a broad spectrum of opportunities for interpreters. Below is a list of helpful resources for those who are new to New Mexico.

State Licensure

New Mexico requires signed language interpreters to be licensed. There are three licenses:

- Provisional – for individuals who were already employed as interpreters in July 2009 or who have graduated from an ITP but are not yet certified by RID. Can be held for a maximum of five years.
- Educational – requires the ED: K-12 credential from RID or meeting the criteria for the ED:K-12 (EIPA performance test score of 4.0 or better, pass EIPA written test, satisfy RID’s educational requirements, and current Associate membership with RID), and is only valid in K-12 settings.
- Community – requires RID certification or some BEI certifications, and is valid in K-12 and community settings.

Details can be found at the website of the Signed Language Interpreting Practice Board:

www.rld.nm.gov/boards-and-commissions/individual-boards-and-commissions/signed-language-interpreting-practices. Practicing without a license is a misdemeanor punishable by up to 364 days in jail and/or up to a \$1000 fine.

For details about how to apply, see our Fact Sheet “Applying for a New Mexico Interpreting License” on the Fact Sheets page of the NMCDHH website: www.cdhh.nm.gov/resources/fact-sheets.

Public Education Department License

Educational Interpreters are also required to hold a license from the Public Education Department (PED). Holding one of the three licenses listed above qualifies an interpreter to hold the PED license. Details and forms can be found at the PED website:

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/licensure/how-to-apply/interpreter-for-the-deaf-pre-k-12>.

Professional Organization

The New Mexico Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf is a great source of information and professional development. Visit the NMRID website at: www.nmrid.org and follow them on Facebook here: www.facebook.com/NewMexicoRID.

New Mexico Interpreters Distribution List

NMCDHH administers an email distribution list for signed language interpreters to share professional development opportunities, job postings, licensure updates, and other relevant information. If you are interested in being added to the distribution list, please email Trevor Brennan at Trevor.Brennan@cdhh.nm.gov. If you have something you would like to share with the interpreting community, please send it to the same address to be forwarded to the list.

NMCDHH Social Media

We also share professional development and employment opportunities on our social media accounts. Follow us here:

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/NMCDHH
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/NMCDHH
- Instagram: www.instagram.com/nmcdhh/

Educational Interpreting Opportunities

The largest employer of educational interpreters is the Albuquerque Public Schools (APS). Job postings are available on their website: www.aps.edu under the 'jobs' tab.

The New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD) has its main campus in Santa Fe, and has preschools in Albuquerque, Farmington, and Las Cruces. Employment opportunities are posted on their website: www.nmsd.k12.nm.us.

Other school districts near Albuquerque also hire interpreters, including the cities of Rio Rancho, Los Lunas, and Belen. School districts statewide also hire interpreters. A more complete list of school districts is available at the PED website, and NMSD maintains a listing of Non-NMSD positions on their website here: www.nmsd.k12.nm.us/o/nmsd/page/non-nmsd-employment.

Postsecondary Interpreting Opportunities

Several Postsecondary Institutions in New Mexico hire interpreters. Below are a few colleges and universities in the Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces areas:

University of New Mexico: www.unm.edu
Central New Mexico Community College: www.cnm.edu
Santa Fe Community College: www.sfcc.edu
New Mexico State University: www.nmsu.edu
Doña Ana Community College: <http://dacc.nmsu.edu>

Interpreter Referral Agencies

There are several Interpreter Referral Agencies serving New Mexico. Please see the Fact Sheet "How to Find a Signed Language Interpreter" on the Fact Sheets page of the NMCDHH website for a listing of agencies: www.cdhh.nm.gov/resources/fact-sheets.