



New Mexico Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

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How to Study for the EIPA Tests

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To apply for an Educational Signed Language Interpreter License in New Mexico you must have an EIPA Performance Test score of 4.0 or higher and demonstrate a passing score on the EIPA Written Test. It does not matter which test you take first, although because it takes longer to receive the Performance Test score many interpreters opt to start with that assessment. Below is information on what each of these tests looks like and how to best prepare to take them.

EIPA Written Test

This is a 176-question multiple choice test assessing an interpreter's knowledge of child language development, culture, education, English, interpreting, linguistics, literacy and tutoring, professionalism, and technology. The test is pass/fail with a 75% or better to pass, and results are provided as soon as the exam is submitted. Those taking the exam will have up to 4 hours to complete it.

One of the best ways to study for this test is to review the information provided at the Resources page on EIPA's website: <https://classroominterpreting.org/resources> as well as the EIPA Written Test and Content Standards document found here:

[https://cdn.aglty.io/classroom-
interpreting/resources/WrittenTestandContentKnowledgeStandards.pdf](https://cdn.aglty.io/classroom-interpreting/resources/WrittenTestandContentKnowledgeStandards.pdf)

RID's Standard Practice Paper on educational interpreting is also a useful resource: [drive.google.com/file/d/0B3DKvZMfFLdcFE2N25NM1NkaGs/view?resourcekey=0-
jnjsQc4h3kNikID2-lstcw](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B3DKvZMfFLdcFE2N25NM1NkaGs/view?resourcekey=0-jnjsQc4h3kNikID2-lstcw)

EIPA Performance Test

This is a performance-based test assessing an interpreter's ability to provide both signed and voiced communication within K-12 classroom settings. Test takers will choose which level they would like to be tested in (elementary or secondary) as well as which language they would like to interpret (American Sign Language [ASL] or Pidgin Signed English [PSE] with some ASL features). Each of these assessments have been created to replicate a true to life classroom setting as much as possible, so we recommend you take the exam that most closely matches your most common assignments. When the interpreter is ready to begin testing, they will be shown two separate lesson plans and two samples of students signing and will be given the option

of which testing stimulus they would like to take. Then interpreters will be given 2 hours including a 30-minute warm-up time to prep the lessons and interpret. Test recordings will then be sent to raters who will determine scores on a 0 to 5.0 scale in the following domains: sign intonation and grammatical and spatial representation; ability to read child/teen sign language; sign vocabulary; and pragmatic representation/overall behaviors.

Interpreters who want to apply for the Educational Interpreter license in New Mexico must have an average score of 4.0 or higher. Explanation of the skills evidenced at the different levels may be found here: <https://cdn.aglty.io/classroom-interpreting/resources/ProfileOfSkillsAtEachRatingLevelOfTheEIPA.pdf>.

EIPA has created an excellent video that addresses the most commonly asked questions about the Performance test that we recommend you watch: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gaae6wwa0h0.

The best way to study for this exam is to use the official EIPA practice test materials. The materials are offered as a web-based subscription that provides access to the whole collection of practice materials: <https://eipa.boystown.org/practice>. Boys Town also offers live or recorded workshops and webinars to assist with test preparation, and they have a series of recorded on-demand classes available: <https://eipa.boystown.org/workshops>.

The NMCDHH Library has copies of the practice tests at all levels and languages which are available for patrons to borrow. Visit the Library page on our website to learn how to access materials: www.cdhh.nm.gov/resources/library.