

AMADOR COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION (ACOE)  
SIGNER/INTERPRETER - DEAF/HARD OF HEARING

DEFINITION

Under the supervision of the program administrator and the direction of a specific certificated staff member, Signer/Interpreter for Deaf/Hard of Hearing performs the necessary task of signing/interpreting and performs necessary duties to assist in the planning and implementation of the program for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing student(s).

PRIMARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Will sign/interpret instructions, movies, speeches, and any spoken words or dialogue in regular and special education classes.
- Available to sign/interpret during special school events and activities during the normal duty hours.
- Assists in planning, implementation, and evaluation of individual student program(s), including documentation of student development and progress.
- Will work towards improving and maintaining his/her signing and interpreting skills (see Education and Experience below).
- Assists in the supervision of students at assigned tasks in and out of the classroom during the normal duty hours.
- Helps students develop positive interpersonal relationships with peers and adults and functions as an appropriate, positive role model.
- Assists in providing educational instruction and information for parents.
- Provides necessary physical care and emotional support for students.
- Displays calmness and control while dealing with behavioral problems and restraining “tantrumming behavior”.
- Attends required staff meetings and in-service training.
- Operates equipment necessary to program operation (i.e. amplification equipment).

SECONDARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Does related work as required by job-specific position.
- May assist in the preparation and maintenance of instructional materials.
- May participate in Individual Education Program meetings.
- May participate in service education.
- Assists in preparing, monitoring, and cleaning program equipment.
- Provides non-routine specialized health care needs which do not require a health/instructional aide; i.e., toileting, administration of epi pen (bee sting) and monitoring of reaction and anaphylactic reaction procedure, hyper or hypoglycerine care for a diabetic (i.e. administration of juice or sugar substitute,), assisting when a student has a seizure. Training will be provided as needed.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- American Sign Language (ASL), Signed Exact English (SEE), Pidgeon Sign English (PSE) and Total Communication (TC) signing systems,

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- Deaf cultural norms as they pertain to communication and socialization,
- Child growth and development principles,
- Academic instruction/behavioral management, and
- Health care procedures - training provided for specialized health care needs which do not require a health aide.

Ability to:

- Use a signing system that incorporates ASL, SEE, PSE, or TC signing skills,
- Adapt signing techniques to meet the child's communication needs,
- Apply techniques to handle tantruming behavior and assist physically and severely handicapped students in movement and specialized health care procedures,
- Work effectively with disabled students,
- Respond to parents as needed,
- Respect the confidentiality of school related incidents and information,
- Understand and carry out oral and written instructions, and
- Maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

DESIRABLE SKILLS

- Willing to continue working toward improving signing/interpreting skills, and
- Understanding of, or willingness to improve understanding of, Deaf culture.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

As of July 2007, California requires all educational interpreters to have one of the following certifications:

1. NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification (NIC) (or RID),
2. Educational Interpreter Performance Evaluation (EIPA),
3. Educational Sign Skills Evaluation (ESSE), or
4. A state-determined equivalent.

Acceptable certification levels are:

July 2007 must be certified at 3.0 or higher  
July 2008 must be certified at 3.5 or higher  
July 2009 must be certified at 4.0 or higher

The following is preferred:

- One year or more experience in sign language interpreting ,
- One year of child/youth related experience or equivalent training,
- Display competency in academic skills such as reading, writing, and computation (Proficiency Test), and
- High school diploma or equivalent; additional training in child development or special education is desirable.

**CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**

- **Standard CPR and First Aid Certifications**

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PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Light Work:

Positions in this class perform work that may include: lifting, pushing and/or pulling which does not normally exceed 50 pounds. Position involves interpreting in sign language throughout the day; therefore, hands and wrists must be able to sustain manual dexterity and flexibility to sign during hours of employment.

Mobility:

Positions in this class require the mobility to stand, stoop, reach, bend, and travel to different classrooms.

Vision:

Positions in this class require vision (which may be corrected) to read small print in addition to being able to see and understand sign language used by students and other individuals within the school setting.

Hearing:

Positions in this class require hearing (which may be corrected) to translate auditory/oral spoken language to sign language.

LICENSE REQUIRED

A valid and appropriate California driver's license

SALARY LEVEL

Range 44 of the ACOE Classified Salary schedule with **State Certification**. Salary is dependent upon maintaining acceptable certification levels as required by the State.