

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CLASS SPECIFICATION

HUMAN SERVICES SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

POSITION CODE: 19810
Effective: 7-1-14

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general supervision, provides interpreting services between deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind persons and hearing persons in the rehabilitation and/or behavioral health care setting. The interpreter is responsible for accurate, continuous, and clear interpretation for both the hearing and deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind persons. Positions in this classification apply specialized knowledges and skills gained from work experience in the fields of disabilities and/or behavioral health.

Class Exclusions

- Positions where the interpreters' principal work is not with individuals, customers or students receiving rehabilitation and/or behavioral health care services.
- Positions where employees communicate in sign language and are not interpreting for someone else.
- Positions where interpreting is an incidental duty to the work or in combination with the work where it is not the principal and predominant duty.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Interprets daily interactions between hearing and deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind individuals, professional staff, individuals, customers or students.
2. Interprets for individuals, customers, or students who are deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind, during treatment/care procedures such as an intake evaluation interview.
3. Interprets for community meetings, training sessions, and special events attended by staff and/or individuals, customers or students who are deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind.
4. Interprets for physicians, and other professionals with individuals, customers or students who are deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind inside and outside the agency.

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5. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

Requires a valid interpreter license in accordance with the interpreter for the Deaf Licensure Act of 2007. Requires an Advanced Proficiency License as mandated by 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1515.90. Master Proficiency License is preferred.

Additionally, requires one year of experience in the fields of disabilities or behavioral health; or, requires an associate of arts degree from an accredited sign language interpreter training program plus 1,000 hours interpreter experience in a disabilities or behavioral health setting while holding the Advanced and/or Master level licensure.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires extensive knowledge of and fluency in American Sign Language, signed English, tactile sign language and/or other communication modalities used by persons who are deaf/hard of hearing or deaf/blind.

Requires extensive knowledge of the deaf culture.

Requires extensive knowledge of and adherence to the 68 Illinois Administrative Code 1515.90 and the Registry of Interpreters for the deaf and the National Association of the Deaf Code of Professional Conduct

Requires elementary knowledge of the mission of the department and the methods utilized in the attainment of its goals.

Requires working knowledge of the roles and interactions of agency professional and support staff.

Requires working knowledge of agency terminology.

Requires ability to interpret for persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf/blind at the required license level.

Requires ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees and individuals, customers or students with disabilities or behavioral health problems.

Requires ability to organize work effectively and work independently within the role of the interpreter.

Requires ability to function effectively under adverse or stressful conditions.

Requires a valid appropriate driver's license and/or the ability to travel.