American Sign Language/English Interpreting in North Dakota

Life in the vast lane...
Education/Experience

• High degree of linguistic, cognitive and technical skills in American Sign Language & Deaf culture (ASL) and English
• Bachelors degree and/or equivalent experience
• Adhere to Code of Professional Conduct/Ethics
  • CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION
  • Possess skills & knowledge for specific interpreting situations
  • Appropriate conduct: punctual, proper dress & grooming
  • Demonstrate respect for consumers (Deaf and hearing)/FLEXIBLE
  • Respect for colleagues, interns, and students of the profession: Flexible/“play well with others”
  • Maintain ethical business practices
• Engage in professional development: skills, knowledge, culture
  • Workshops, conferences, reading: life-long learners/students
  • Current events: local & national news, sports, weather, etc.
  • Participate regularly in Deaf-hosted events/activities
Where do interpreters work?

- Freelance agencies
- Self-employed independent contractors
- Education
  - Preschool, K-12
  - Magnet/charter schools for the deaf (Metro Deaf School – St. Paul, MN)
  - Residential schools for the deaf (ND School for the Deaf)
  - Post-secondary (colleges, universities)
- Medical field
- Mental health
- Legal settings
- Theatre
- Local, state and federal government
- Conferences and conventions
- Video remote interpreting
- Video relay interpreting
• 43-52-02. Practice of interpreting.

An individual may not practice or represent as an interpreter for the deaf, deaf-blind, speech-impaired, or hard-of-hearing individuals in the state unless the individual holds a valid nationally-recognized certification.
Nationally recognized certification


4. “Nationally recognized certification” means certification granted by a national organization that is based on a skills assessment of the applicant. These organizations include:

- The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- The National Association of the Deaf
NDCC 43-52-03. Exceptions.

• This chapter does not prevent or restrict:
  2. An interpreter working at a religious activity.
  3. An interpreter working as a volunteer without compensation.
  4. An interpreter working in an emergency...[until a certified interpreter is obtained].
  5. Interpreter interns or students-in-training...under supervision of a certified interpreter.
  6. An individual...communicating with/on behalf of [consumer(s)] who has/have specifically requested that use by that individual.
NDCC 43-52-03. Exceptions.

- This chapter does not prevent or restrict:
  
  9. An individual working in an elementary or secondary school who has passed the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) at a level of 3.5 or higher.

- This chapter does not prevent or restrict:
  
  10. An individual who has successfully completed an accredited interpreter training program (ITP):
      
      o Without certification for ...up to two years...if, during that period
      
      o The individual is mentored by a certified interpreter or a deaf adult
What’s the difference?

**EIPA**
- Score system: 0.0/5.0
- Diagnostic feedback
- Performance evaluation; written test optional
- 3.5+ required in most states
- No prerequisites
- CEUs not required at this time

**RID**
- Strictly pass/fail
- Written AND performance tests required
- Candidates must have a bachelors degree
- CEUs required to maintain certification (8.0/4-year cycle)
Interpreters in ND...by the numbers

- A total of 20 members of RID
  - 16 Certified
    - 1 full-time freelance interpreter
    - 4 work full-time in educational settings (& freelance when available)
    - 10 part-time freelance interpreters (3 work full-time in non-interpreting related fields)
  - 1 is inactive
- 3 Associate
- 1 Student

Statistics from RID.org current as of 11/20/17
Where are the certified interpreters?

www.rid.org (11/20/17)

Williston: 1
Minot: 2
Devils Lake area: 3
Grand Forks area: 3

Dickinson: 0
Bis/Man: 3
Jamestown: 0
Fargo: 3
Interpreting in ND...

Cons
- No work/no experience – No experience/no work
- Paras vs. interpreters
- Shortage of certified freelance interpreters
- No licensing board
- Rural distances/time to assignments

Pros
- Supportive Deaf community
- Variety of assignments
- Resources
  - Mentors
  - MARIE Center
  - NDSD/Resources
    - Two workshops/year
    - Educational materials
    - Communication assessments
Where to find interpreters... (on-site/live)

- www.nd.gov/ndsd/
  - ND Freelance Interpreters List (center left on screen)
- www.rid.org
  - Search Tools (upper right side of screen)
    - Find a Member
    - Searchable database
Where to find interpreters... (on-site/live)

- ASL Interpreting Services (ASLIS)
  Golden Valley, MN
  Phone: 1-866-ASL(275)-DEAF(3323)
  Email: info@aslis.com
  Web: aslis.com

- Certified Interpreting and Consultants, Inc. (CIC)
  Detroit Lakes, MN
  Phone: (877) 283-5331
  Email: cicpartners@hotmail.com
Video Relay Service (VRS)

- VRS, AKA video interpreting, is a telecommunication service that allows deaf and hard of hearing individuals to communicate over video telephones with hearing people in real-time, via sign language interpreters
  - The hearing and deaf/HH consumers are each located in different places.
  - There is NO CHARGE for this service.
- Demo: NVRC Technology Demonstration: Video Relay Services
- Available 24/7/365

www.ntid.rit.edu
Where can VRS be accessed?

- purple.us/trynow
- sorensonvrs.com/
- zvrs.com
Video Remote Interpreting (VRI)

- VRI is an on-demand video telecommunication service that provides sign language or spoken language interpreting delivered over a live internet video connection using web cameras or videophones
  - Hearing and deaf/HH parties are physically present in the same location.
  - A remote or offsite interpreter provides communication facilitation.
  - Fee-based, requires contract
- Demo: [https://lsaweb.com/solutions/video-remote-interpreting-3](https://lsaweb.com/solutions/video-remote-interpreting-3)
- Available 24/7/365

www.alldeaf.com

www.partnersinterpreting.com
Where can VRI be accessed?


• [Lsavideo.com/](http://Lsavideo.com/)

• [purple.us/trynow](http://purple.us/trynow)

• [dars.state.tx.us](http://dars.state.tx.us)
Where to find VRI interpreters... (for medical or legal settings)

stratusvideo.com/

• Legal & medical interpreting
• 175 spoken and signed languages
• 60,000 calls processed/day
• Available 24/7/365
• Fee-based, requires contract
Technology for clients who are hard-of-hearing/late-deafened

- [www.captel.com/captel](http://www.captel.com/captel) (Provided by Sprint)
- [www.relaynorthdakota.com/](http://www.relaynorthdakota.com/)
- 711
  - CapTel user calls: 800.366.6888 or 711 (TTY)
  - Voice user calls: 800.366.6889 or 711 (Voice)
- Free of charge
- Available 24/7/365

CapTel™ (Captioned Telephone)
Resources

• Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment
  www.classroominterpreting.org/eipa

• National Association of the Deaf – www.nad.org/

• North Dakota Century Code – Chapter 43-52 Interpreters
  www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t43c52.pd

• Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf –
  http://www.rid.org/ethics/code-of-professional-conduct/
Questions/More information

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