

IS A CAREER AS AN EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER RIGHT FOR YOU?



WHAT IS AN EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER?

An educational interpreter uses sign language and spoken language to provide communication access for a student who is deaf or hard of hearing, in their educational setting. This includes classroom instruction, teacher and student conversations, announcements, and relevant environmental sound information (like the signal for class changing). A primary responsibility of an educational interpreter is to make sure the student understands and comprehends the information being taught and has access to all activities and opportunities in their educational setting.

WHAT MIGHT YOU DO AS AN EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER?



WITH STUDENTS, you might:

- Interpret in a language and/or mode that matches the student's communication need.
- Model social strategies to encourage interaction between students who use sign language and those who do not.
- Provide communication access to all school events like sports, field trips, and assemblies.



WITH SCHOOL PERSONNEL, you might:

- Work with classroom teachers to provide communication access so the student who is deaf or hard of hearing can participate with their peers.
- Share information with school personnel about the roles and responsibilities of the interpreter.
- Participate in meetings as part of the student's educational team.

YOU MIGHT ENJOY A CAREER AS AN EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER IF YOU LIKE TO:

- Learn about other cultures and languages
- Interact with students, teachers, and families
- Work in fast-paced environments

VOICES FROM THE FIELD: MEET SOME EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETERS

“I enjoy working with the kids...and being a big part of their educational journey.”

Josh Baugher
Educational Interpreter
Mechanicsburg Area SD

Scan the QR codes to watch the interviews:

Paul Tajc
Intermediate Unit 1



Maya Smith
Lancaster-Lebanon
Intermediate Unit 13



Jessica Bentley-Sassaman
Commonwealth
University-Bloomsburg



Josh Baugher
Mechanicsburg Area
School District



Imanni Jones
All Hands Interpreting
Services



HOW TO BECOME AN EDUCATIONAL INTERPRETER IN PENNSYLVANIA:

The two most common pathways to becoming an educational interpreter include:

OPTION 1 - Pursue an associate's degree from either Community College of Allegheny County or Community College of Philadelphia.

OPTION 2 - Pursue a bachelor's degree from either Commonwealth University at Bloomsburg or Mount Aloysius College.

After completing an interpreter training program, you must take the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) test and score a minimum of a 3.5 out of 5 in order to work as an educational interpreter in Pennsylvania schools.

Associate Degree Programs

- Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC)
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
- Community College of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA 19130



Bachelor's Degree Programs

- Commonwealth University - Bloomsburg
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
- Mount Aloysius College
Cresson, PA 16630

