

## HEARING IMPAIRED PROGRAM INTERPRETER

### KIND OF WORK

Professional Regional Service Center interpreting/coordinating work.

### NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under limited supervision, coordinates and promotes sign language interpreting services for an assigned region of the state to identify and respond to the communication needs of the hearing impaired community/clients and ensure that the provisions of the Hearing Impaired Service Act are met. Performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Promotes interpreter use and increased awareness of the rights of hearing impaired individuals so that community facilities and services are accessible to this clientele. This is achieved by: developing and presenting training sessions to agencies and groups; compiling and disseminating printed material regarding interpreter procurement and use; consulting with employers and agencies regarding the need for interpreter services by their employees and clients and the services available from the RSC; and by responding to individual inquiries about sign language interpreting.

Trains public and private agencies in communication, adaptive equipment, and culture of hearing impaired persons in order to educate and increase public awareness of communications, accommodations and relationships with hearing impaired persons. This is accomplished through workshops and consultations.

Enhances skills of regional interpreters so that interpreting expertise is maximized and client needs served. This is achieved by: assessing interpreter skills; identifying training needs; developing and presenting workshops and information sharing sessions; and providing case specific assistance.

Coordinates the sign language interpreter referral services of the RSC so that these services are available to meet the needs of hearing impaired persons by: compiling and updating a directory of interpreters; receiving and assessing requests for interpreters; matching interpreters and placements; preparing and distributing procedural and billing information to interpreter users; and compiling statistics and evaluative data on interpreter placements.

Translates, interprets and voice interprets meetings, interviews, conferences, phone calls, etc. for RSC staff, clients and hearing impaired consumers so that they may fully access RSC services. This is achieved by: arranging an appropriate physical setting for interpreting; explaining the role and function of the interpreter; using a mode of communication appropriate to client needs and preferences; employing regional sign variations as needed; and adhering to the registry of interpreters for the deaf (RID) code of ethics.

Develops and recommends to supervisor modifications to existing service delivery activities and work plans to increase or improve area services to hearing impaired clients. This is accomplished by identifying unmet needs of the hearing impaired clientele.

### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

#### Knowledge of:

American sign language, Signed English and specialized signs, sufficient to interpret and reverse interpret in a variety of public meetings or other settings.

RID code ethics sufficient to avoid personal interference or misuse of confidential information.

Problems and cultures of the deaf sufficient to inform or instruct hearing persons concerning needs of the hearing impaired.

Uses and design of a variety of TTY/TDD and other adaptive equipment sufficient to use and train consumers in its use.

Techniques for evaluating sign language skills sufficient to assess and refer free lance interpreters to requesting agencies and persons.

Federal and state legislation regarding required services for hearing impaired persons sufficient to advise organizations of their responsibilities.

#### Skills in:

Sign language interpreting and reverse interpreting (ASL and Signed English) sufficient to interpret in any public or large group situations requiring broad comprehensive and versatile use of vocabulary.

Ability to:

Plan, organize and conduct training sessions involving sign language interpreters.

Communicate orally with individuals and groups in explaining and promoting program services.

Prepare written case reports and promotional materials such as brochures and newsletters.

Est.: 3/27/86  
Rev.:

T.C.:  
Former Title(s):