

Interpreter Services

NCDHH is Nebraska's connecting link for communication between agencies, businesses, and individuals to interpreter services. We do this by providing access to:

- Nebraska's free sign language interpreter referral service
- Statewide licensed interpreter roster
- National & State certified interpreters

NCDHH provides support and training to Nebraska's sign language interpreters by:

- Working in tandem with area interpreter associations
- Sponsoring RID Continuing Education Units
- Providing education regarding the roles and importance of licensed/certified interpreters to businesses, agencies and medical personnel

Why use a licensed/certified interpreter?

- Proven qualifications and skills based on certification level
- Bound by Code of Professional Conduct



NCDHH
Nebraska Commission
for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Contact us

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Omaha, NE 68102

Kearney
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Scottsbluff
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1100 Scottsbluff, NE
69361

North Platte 200
South Silber, Room
207 North Platte, NE
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Office Hours:
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Weekends &
Holidays: closed

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NCDHH
Nebraska Commission
for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Interpreter Services

Licensing / Certification

Referral / Training

Serving Nebraskans since 1979
Lincoln • Omaha • North Platte
Kearney

Interpreter Information

How Does NCDHH Assist Interpreters?

How Do I Get An Interpreter?

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Title III: Places of public accommodation must furnish auxiliary aids when necessary to ensure **effective communication**, unless undue burden or fundamental alteration would result.

Why Use Interpreters?

All Americans with disabilities are protected by the ADA. The most common auxiliary aid that can be provided to citizens who are Deaf is the use of a sign language interpreter. Sign language interpreters are trained to bridge the communication gap between distinct languages, most typically, English and American Sign Language. This “bridge” ensures that communication is effective, regardless of hearing acuity and language barriers.

The most common environments include, but aren't limited to:

- Medical / Dental Appointments
- Legal Appointments
- Educational Settings
- Behavioral Health
- Job Training
- Religious settings
- Community
- Business Meetings

Who is Qualified to Interpret?

Interpreters listed in the NCDHH directory hold certificates from one or more of the following:

- National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- National Association of the Deaf
- Mid-America Quality Assurance Screening Test (QAST)

Interpreters are a legal auxiliary aid that benefits all Nebraskans. NCDHH resources can assist interpreters in developing their skills and advocate their use. We do this in a variety of ways:

Media Center: Our media center contains hundreds of books, videotapes, DVDs and CDs covering a wide variety of interpreting topics

Cooperation: NCDHH works with local and national interpreter associations

Advocacy: NCDHH presents information to agencies and businesses throughout Nebraska regarding the ADA and the appropriate use of sign language interpreters

Certification: NCDHH recognizes the Quality Assurance Screening Test for Nebraska, as well as National certifications. This Certification serves as verification to agencies and businesses of the interpreter's skill level.

NCDHH has established a service for all Nebraskans to access registered interpreters. You can expect the following steps to occur when locating an interpreter through our Referral Service:

1. Places or businesses needing services can request an interpreter by phone or online
2. NCDHH receives and processes the request
3. NCDHH strives to fill your request with registered interpreters

When an interpreter accepts your referral, the following steps should occur:

1. NCDHH will email or call with a confirmation with the interpreter's name and contact information
2. You will receive an introductory call from the interpreter who accepted your referral, outlining their policies, procedures and fees

Rates for interpreters are negotiated between the interpreter and the hiring contact. NCDHH does not become involved in any negotiations or communication regarding costs or any other billing issues regarding interpreter services.