

Contact Information

For a list of Conditional Licensed Interpreters, and/or information on licensing fees and how to apply for licensing as an interpreter for deaf and hard-of-hearing people, contact:

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

35 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0035
Voice: 207-624-8603
TTY users call Maine Relay 711

Jennifer Hawk
Telephone: 207-624-8617
Email: Jennifer.M.Hawk@Maine.gov

or

Tammy Reed
Telephone: 207-624-8624
Email: Tammy.Reed@Maine.gov



*Division for the Deaf
Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened*

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available to individuals with disabilities upon request. Programs are provided as a proud partner of the American Job Center network.

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Maine Department of Labor
Bureau of Rehabilitation Services
150 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0150

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DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR

*Division for the Deaf
Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened*

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Hiring Interpreters for People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

A guide to choosing a qualified,
licensed professional



www.maine.gov/rehab

Sign Language Interpreters

MUST be Licensed

Individuals who are compensated for providing interpreting services for deaf and hard-of-hearing people must be licensed with the Maine Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

Licensed interpreters are issued a wallet-sized identification card. It is good practice to document the identification number of the interpreter hired for the encounter.

Legal Interpreters are certified, licensed interpreters with additional training. Interpreters approved to work in Maine in legal settings are listed here:

https://www.maine.gov/rehab/dod/legal_interp.shtml



Conditional License Requirements

Interpreters must provide to the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation proof that they have attained:

1. 18 years of age.
2. An associate degree or higher in ASL, ASL Interpreting, or Deaf Studies; or
3. An alternative pathway approved by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. and
4. A score of 3.5 or higher on an ASL proficiency interview; and
5. A passing score on the RID National Interpreter Certification knowledge exam; or
6. A passing score on the RID National Interpreter Certification Deaf interpreter knowledge exam or equivalent

A current Maine Limited License is a retired, but still valid license. This license indicates the interpreter has documented both 100 clock hours of ASL and interpreting instruction.

Licensing Requirements (Advanced Level of Interpreting)

- Number 1 above **AND:**
- Documented proof of VALID certification by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. OR comparable certification by a comparable or successor organization recognized by the director that is current at the time of application.

Definitions

Interpreting—Interpreting, simply stated, is receiving a message in one language and delivering it in another. Interpreting is a complex process that requires a high degree of linguistic, cognitive, and technical skills.

Deaf People—Deaf people are those people whose sense of hearing is nonfunctional for the purpose of communication and whose primary means of communication is visual or tactile.

Hard-of-Hearing People—Hard of Hearing are those people who have a functional hearing loss, who may or may not primarily use visual and tactile communication and who may or may not use assistive listening devices.



**Do Not Hire
Unlicensed Interpreters**