

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, the incumbent in this position facilitates communication between hearing-impaired students, their teachers, their peers, and other personnel in the school setting, (e.g., counselors and administrators) by providing sign interpreting (voice to American Sign Language - ASL) and voice interpreting (sign to voice). Further, incumbents provide tutoring services to reinforce and clarify class lessons, and assist students in preparing for classes, examinations, state licensing tests, and presentations when necessary. Incumbents must exercise independent judgement in choosing the most effective way of transmitting the information to the hearing-impaired students. Incumbents participate in meetings as members of the educational team. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Provides sign and voice interpreting including American Sign Language, a form of manually coded English, and/or oral interpreting for hearing-impaired students in Occupational Education and regular academic classes;

Provides in-class remedial and tutoring services for deaf and hearing-impaired students on an on-going basis as required;

Assumes responsibility for learning subject content for classes they will be interpreting to the deaf and hearing-impaired students;

Actively prepares for classroom activities, follows class schedule/assignments, anticipating areas where hearing-impaired students may experience difficulty with the lesson concept or related concepts and preparing material for those areas;

Participates in educational team meetings, providing insight on the success of communication strategies, learning strategies, socialization and emotional issues;

Provides interpreting for extracurricular activities and parent meetings when necessary;

Provides interpreting and job coaching as needed for job interviews and new job situations;

Assists in providing orientations on deafness to hearing students and staff;

Increases knowledge and skills through participation in workshops, professional meetings, interaction with professional colleagues, and reading current literature in the field, especially related to interpreter services in the educational setting;

Uses computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of American Sign Language (ASL); subject knowledgeable in classes being interpreted; ability to sign interpret and voice interpret American Sign Language (ASL) at a classroom and normal conversational rate; ability to relate to youth ages 6-18; ability to interpret and interact with deaf and hearing-impaired adults; ability to meet the interpreting needs of the individual sites; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with teachers and other school personnel; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software; ability to read, write, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential functions of the position; sound judgement; integrity, physical condition commensurate with the duties of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: An Associate's Degree* or Bachelor's Degree* in American Sign Language, Sign Language Interpreting or related field and/or Certificate from the Registry of Interpreter for the Deaf as a Sign Language Interpreter.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

In accordance with the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) legislation, Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, candidates for appointment in school districts must obtain clearance for employment from the State Education Department prior to employment based upon a fingerprint and criminal history background check.