

# **Sign Language Interpreter Qualifications**

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## **Interpreter Services for Parents who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

Idaho enacted the Educational Interpreter Act on July 1, 2006.

In Idaho, Educational Sign Language Interpreters must meet one of the following criteria to be certified. Score of at least 3.5 on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) or certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) or National Association of the Deaf (NAD) level III

For RID Certification, Holders of this certification are deaf or hard of hearing and have demonstrated knowledge and understanding of interpreting, deafness, the Deaf community, and Deaf culture. Holders have specialized training and/or experience in the use of gesture, mime, props, drawings and other tools to enhance communication. Holders possess native or near-native fluency in American Sign Language and are recommended for a broad range of assignments where an interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This credential has been available since 1998.

NAD Level III Certification was offered by the National Association of the Deaf between the early 1990s and late 2002. To maintain this certification the interpreters must be registered with RID prior to June 30, 2005.

Since the Idaho Infant Toddler Program works under IDEA – Part C, Sign Language Interpreters should meet these requirements.