



Sign Language Interpreter C.A.

Career Community: Communication, Journalism, and Language

Curriculum Code: 0187

Effective: Fall 2023 – Summer 2028

Revised: 6/26/23

Description

A Sign Language Interpreter is a person specially trained to facilitate communication between the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing, and hearing communities. Employment opportunities may be educational settings, freelance, or contracted with agencies to provide interpreting services for dDeaf persons. State of Michigan PA 204 of 2007 states that interpreters must possess certification in order to be employed. The State of Michigan regulates all required certifications under Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' (LARA) Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS) and state credential testing is through the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI). To apply for BEI certification in Michigan, you must have at least an associate's degree from an accredited institution and pass a Test of English Proficiency. In addition to BEI certification for the state of Michigan, graduates may also consider taking the Educational Interpreters Performance Assessment (EIPA) for interpreting in educational settings only, or the National Interpreter Certification (NIC) for nationally recognized certification. Not all courses in this program transfer to all colleges. Students planning to transfer should see an academic advisor before enrolling in any course. Students planning to enroll must meet with a faculty advisor from the Sign Language Interpreter Program.

Milestone

Completion of SIGN 163, SIGN 167, and SIGN 170 with a 2.0 or higher is a key component for success in completing this program. Knowledge obtained in these courses may be the foundation for learning in other required courses. Students are encouraged to contact their faculty if they need additional assistance with learning the concepts presented in these courses.

Additional Information

Entrance to the Interpreter Training Program is granted by passing a screening implemented by the Sign Language Program. Students are eligible to screen after they have successfully completed, with a minimum 2.0, or are currently enrolled in, SIGN 163 (American Sign Language III), SIGN 166 (Fingerspelling), SIGN 167 (Beginning Sign to Voice), and SIGN 170 (Expressive/Receptive ASL).

Students must receive at least a 2.5 in ALL 200-level SIGN courses and complete 240 practicum hours, while also satisfying the individual category requirements, to complete this certificate. For questions related to the practicum, please contact the Practicum Supervisor by [email](mailto:signpracticum@star.lcc.edu) (signpracticum@star.lcc.edu).

Contact Information

For further information, including career options, course substitutions and waivers, etc., contact the Communication, Media and the Arts Department, Gannon Building, Room 1222, telephone number 517-483-1546 or the Sign Language Interpreter Program, 517-483-5329 or signadvising@star.lcc.edu.

Program of Study Required Courses

Course Code	Course Title	Credit / Billing Hours
SIGN 160	Intro to the Deaf Community	3 / 3
SIGN 161	American Sign Language I	3 / 3
SIGN 162	American Sign Language II	3 / 3
SIGN 163	American Sign Language III	3 / 3
SIGN 164	American Sign Language IV	3 / 3
SIGN 166	Fingerspelling	3 / 3
SIGN 167	Beginning Sign to Voice	3 / 3
SIGN 170	Expressive/Receptive ASL	3 / 3
SIGN 200	Sign Practicum Seminar	2 / 2
SIGN 240	Intro to Transliterating	3 / 3
SIGN 263	Intermediate Sign to Voice	3 / 3
SIGN 266	Post-Secondary Interpreting	2 / 2
SIGN 267	Sign Practicum I	3 / 3
SIGN 268	Sign Practicum II	3 / 3

Minimum Total Credit Hours

40 credits / 40 billing hours

Recommended Course Sequence

Semester I (Fall)
SIGN 160
SIGN 161
Semester II (Spring)
SIGN 162
SIGN 166
Semester III (Summer)
SIGN 163 – Milestone course
SIGN 167 – Milestone course
SIGN 170 – Milestone course

Semester IV (Fall)
SIGN 164
SIGN 200
SIGN 240

Semester V (Spring)
SIGN 263
SIGN 267

Semester VI (Summer)
SIGN 266
SIGN 268

LCC makes every effort to limit revisions to the pathways during their effective timeframe. However, the College reserves the right to update certificate and degree title changes, and make course changes as needed, without prior notice.