

# Facts about Interpreters for the Deaf



An interpreter does more than just use sign language. They serve as a tool for bridging communication gaps, conveying messages between two different languages.



Interpreters develop their skills through **extensive training and practice.**

Each state has its own work eligibility requirements that are **separate from national certification.**

**Urban areas**, especially Washington, D.C., New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles should continue to provide the largest number of jobs.

Employment is expected to **grow 29 percent** by 2024, driven by the increasing use of video relay services, which allow people to conduct **online** video calls and use a sign language interpreter.



Interpreters usually fall into *one of three* categories:



1. Those who work for an agency
2. Those who freelance
3. Those who are contracted through an agency



Job opportunities for people who specialize in **health care** and **law** and who speak **Spanish** will be more plentiful.



To become nationally certified through the **Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf**, interpreters need a **bachelor's degree.**

#### Sources:

<http://www.rid.org/about-Interpreting/Interpreting-rid-overview>  
<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/interpreters-and-translators.htm#tab-6>  
<https://www.nad.org/resources/american-sign-language/interpreting-american-sign-language>  
<http://discoverinterpreting.com/find-an-asl-english-interpreting-program>

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