



State of Louisiana
LOUISIANA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF
Interpreter Ad Hoc Committee

Wednesday September 6, 2023
3:30PM – 6:30PM
Hybrid (In-person and ZOOM)

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to order**
a. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair Lynne Gomez at 3:30PM
- II. Roll Call**
A. Denise Crochet (Present)
B. Earl Harden (Present)
C. Natasha Aymami (Arrived at 5:09PM, absent at roll call)
D. Milissa Welch (Present)
E. Lynne Gomez (Present)
F. Walker Estes (Absent)
G. Leslie Knowles (Present)
- III. Approval of August 23, 2023 Minutes**
a. **Motion:** Denise Crochet / Milissa Welch to approve the updated minutes received on 9/6/2023
Passed unanimously
- IV. Approval of September 6, 2023 Agenda**
a. **Motion:** Denise Crochet /Earl Harden moves to approve the agenda.
Passed unanimously
- V. Public Comments**
a. No public comments
- VI. Old Business**
a. **Educational Interpreter Administrative Code** **Motion:** Earl Harden/ Leslie Knowles to move into Committee as a whole. Passed unanimously.
i. Section 3 Minimum Qualified Interpreter - standards qualification requirements and registration
a. **Motion:** Earl Harden/ Denise Crochet to come out of committee as a whole. Passed unanimously.

- b. **Motion:** Denise Crochet/ Leslie Knowles add three items (1. Splitting into three sections, 2. Editing to say National Certifying body of Interpreters, 3. Added NAD certification level 4 or 5) to Section 3 & 4. Passed unanimously.

Section 3 Minimum Qualified Interpreter - standards qualification requirements and registration

Section A: Educational Requirements

Each applicant for approval as an educational sign language interpreter shall meet one of the following criteria:

1. *hold a minimum of an associate's degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or*
2. *Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education.*

Section B: Performance Requirements each applicant for approval as a sign language interpreter also shall have:

1. *attained a rating of Level 4.0 or above on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) or,*
2. *maintained a valid certification from the National Certifying body of Interpreters; or*
3. *Maintained a valid Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Advanced Certification or higher issued by a state that is a licensed user of the BEI system; or*
4. *Maintained a valid National Association of the Deaf (NAD) certification level 4 or 5.*

Section C: Knowledge/Written Exam Requirements

1. *Regardless of Section B certifications/rating of Level 4.0 or above all Interpreters holding this certificate must pass the EIPA Written Test Knowledge Exam.*
- ii. Section 4 Provisional Educational Interpreter Standards
- a. **Motion:** Leslie Knowles / Milissa Welch to accept section 4 as follows and to present to LCD. Passed unanimously.

Section 4 Provisional Educational Interpreter Standards

One time provisional certificate 3 years duration. (See Section 12 Professional Development)

The Commission shall issue a one-time approved provisional registration, valid up to three years in duration, to an applicant who submits proof one of the following: .

Section A: Educational requirements

1. Complete an Interpreter Educational Program (IEP) with a minimum of a certificate of completion/degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or
2. Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education.

Section B: Performance Requirements each applicant for approval as a sign language interpreter also shall have one of the following:

1. Maintained a valid certification from the National Certifying body of Interpreters or
2. Maintained a valid Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Basic Certification or higher issued by a state that is a licensed user of the BEI system plus passed the; or
3. Maintained a valid National Association of the Deaf (NAD) certification level 4 or 5; and
4. Pass the Pre-Hire screening of the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA).

- iii. Section 5 Qualified/Preferred Educational Interpreter Standards
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- iv. Section 6 Accepted Certificates
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- v. Section 7 Renewal Guidelines
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting

VII. New Business

a. Educational Interpreter Administrative Code

- i. Section 10 Proficiency levels
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- ii. Section 11 Supervision
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- iii. Section 12 Supervision of Performance
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- iv. Section 13 Grievance policy/Compliance

- a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
- v. Section 14 Repeal Denial Suspending or revocation of registration
 - a. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting

VIII. Announcements

- a. No Announcements

IX. Adjourn

- a. **Motion:** Leslie Knowles/ Earl Harden to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously.
- b. Chair Lynne Gomez Adjourned at 6:26pm

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed as listed in order to accommodate presenter schedules.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters and live/remote captioning will be provided. Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for additional accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to jazmyne.lemar@la.gov at least one week prior to the meeting with details of the requested accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to jazmyne.lemar@la.gov and must be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.