

# **Certification Requirements for Educational Interpreters in New Jersey**



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**Revised May 2010**

**Joan Cohen  
New Jersey School for the Deaf-Katzenbach Campus**

**Cindy Williams  
Union County College  
Educational Interpreter Professional Development Center**

**Therese Sheehan  
New Jersey Department of Education**



## Purpose of the presentation

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- Who needs certification?
- What are the categories of educational interpreting endorsements?
- What types of certificates are available for educational interpreters?
- What are the requirements for each certification?
- What are the application processes for districts of employment or educational interpreters?
- What are the professional development requirements for educational interpreters with a standard endorsement?
- Where may educational interpreters find additional resources?



## Who needs certification?

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- An individual providing educational interpreting as a related service to students who are deaf, hard of hearing or deaf/blind
- An individual providing educational interpreting for students in grade levels preschool through grade twelve



## What are the categories of educational interpreting endorsements?

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- Sign Language Interpreting
- Oral Interpreting
- Cued Speech Interpreting



## What types of certificates are available for educational interpreters?

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- New Jersey Administrative Code for Professional Licensure and Standards (N.J.A.C.6A:9) includes three types of Educational Interpreting certificates:
  - Emergency Certificate
  - Standard Certificate
  - County Substitute Credential



## What are the Requirements for Emergency Certification?

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- Outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A: 9  
Subchapter 13.18 (e) – (g)
  - High School Diploma or GED
  - Score of 3.0 or higher on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA)
- Effective September 2005



## What is the Application Process for Emergency Certification?

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- District of employment sponsors interpreter
- District of employment applies for emergency certification through the county office of education
- Educational interpreter provides district supervisor with the following:
  - EIPA certificate with original seal demonstrating performance skill with score of 3.0 or higher
  - High school diploma/GED or higher degree
  - Current fee for the standard endorsement, payable to the Commissioner of Education



## Emergency Certification

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- Emergency Certification may be renewed 3 times
- District supervisor and/or human resources department will monitor progress towards achieving standard endorsement





# What are the requirements for the Educational Interpreter Standard Endorsement: Sign Language Interpreting?

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- Outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9 Subchapter 13.18 (a)-(c)
- Performance or Academic Route
- Must be achieved within four years of receipt of first emergency certificate



## **Standard Certification: Academic Route**

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- Associate Degree or higher in any field
- Score of 3.0 or greater on the EIPA
- 15 semester hours of professional education coursework related to educational interpreting



## Standard Certification: Performance Route

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- HS diploma or GED
- National Certificate from RID or NAD
- Score of 3.0 or higher on the EIPA
- 15 semester hours of professional education coursework related to educational interpreting



## **15 semester hours of professional education coursework in educational interpreting**

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- Child Development
- Language Development
- Curriculum Development/Methods of Instruction
- Interpreting for Students who are Deaf/Blind
- Legal and Ethical Issues for Educational Interpreters



## What is the Application Process for Standard Certification?

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- *The Educational Interpreter*, not the district of employment, applies for standard certification.
- *As of May 2009, the Educational Interpreter* must apply on-line at :

<http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license>



## Documents Required for Standard Endorsement

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- Documentation of high school degree or associate degree
- Documentation of RID/NAD certification (for performance route only)
- EIPA certificate with original seal demonstrating proficiency with a score of 3.0 or higher
- Documentation of completion of 15 semester hours of professional course work
- Current fee for the standard endorsement, payable to the Commissioner of Education



## What are the Professional Development Requirements for Educational Interpreters with a Standard Endorsement?

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- Educational interpreters are included in the definition of **active teaching staff members** according to N.J.A.C. 6A:9 Professional Licensure and Standards
- Beginning September 1, 2010, all active teaching staff members will begin the **same five year professional development cycle**
- Five year cycle is from **September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2015**
- **100 hours** of professional development are required in five year cycle



## Professional Development Plans

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- Educational Interpreter must have an annual Professional Development Plan (PDP)
- Educational Interpreter must develop PDP with supervisor
- Each educational interpreter must make **annual yearly progress** during the five year cycle
- No specific annual hourly requirement for interpreters entering five year cycle in **years one through four**
- For interpreters entering a five year cycle in **year five**, 20 hours of professional development must be completed in that one year



## Professional Development Resources

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- N.J.A.C. 6A:9 Professional Licensure and Standards, Subchapter 15 “Required Professional Development for Teachers” outlines requirements  
Website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/code/current/title6a/chap9.pdf>
- Professional Learning for Teachers-A guidance package for PDP Planning  
Website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/profdev/pd/teacher>



## What are the requirements for the County Substitute Credential for Educational Interpreters?

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- Outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:9 Subchapter 6.5 (j)
- High School Diploma or GED
- Passing Score of 3.0 or higher on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA)
- May serve for one academic year



## What is the application process for the county substitute credential for Educational Interpreters?

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- District of employment applies to the county superintendent
- Substitute educational interpreter must provide the following documentation:
  - High school diploma or GED or higher degree
  - EIPA certificate of a passing score of 3.0 or higher
  - Current fee for the county credential, payable to the Commissioner of Education

**Educational Interpreter  
Emergency Certification Application Information**

<b>Certificate</b>	<b>Where to Apply</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Required Documents</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
<b>Emergency</b>	<b>School District of Employment applies to the County Office of Education for the educational interpreter emergency certification.</b>	<b>\$95.00, initial \$70.00 renew</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. High school/College Diploma or GED</b></li> <li><b>2. Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) documentation with original seal indicating a score of 3.0 or higher</b></li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Emergency Certification may be renewed 3 times</b></li> <li><b>2. District Supervisor and/or Human Resources Department is responsible for monitoring the educational interpreter's progress towards achieving the standard endorsement.</b></li> </ol>

**Educational Interpreter**  
**Standard Certification Application Information**

Certificate	Where to Apply	Cost	Required Documents	Additional Information
Standard	As of May 2009, must apply online at <a href="http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license">http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license</a>	\$95.00	<u>Academic Route</u> <b>1. Associates Degree or Higher</b>  <b>2. EIPA documentation with original seal indicating a score of 3.0 or higher</b>  <b>3. Letter of Verification from Educational Interpreter Professional Development Center (EIPDC) at Camden or Union County Colleges</b>  <b>4. Transcript (s) documenting 15 hours of educational interpreter professional education coursework</b>	<u>Performance Route</u> <b>1. HS diploma/ GED</b>  <b>2. EIPA documentation with original seal indicating a score of 3.0 or higher</b>  <b>3. Copy of National Certification</b>  <b>4. Letter of Verification from Educational Interpreter Professional Development Center (EIPDC) at Camden or Union County Colleges</b>  <b>5. Transcript( s) documenting 15 hours of educational interpreter professional education coursework</b>

# **Educational Interpreter**

## ***Substitute* Certification Application Information**

<b>Certificate</b>	<b>Where to Apply</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Required Documents</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
<b>Substitute</b>	<b>District board of education where the substitute position is available.</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	<b>1. High School/College Diploma or GED  2. EIPA documentation with original seal indicating a score of 3.0 or higher</b>	<b>Criminal history check and fingerprinting required</b>

## Where may educational interpreters access additional information?

Educational Interpreter  
Professional  
Development Center  
(EIPDC)  
Camden County College  
P.O. Box 200  
Blackwood, NJ 08012  
(856) 227-7200 ext 4560  
<http://www.camdencc.edu/eipdc>

Educational Interpreter  
Professional  
Development Center  
(EIPDC)  
Union County College  
232 East Second Street  
Plainfield, NJ 07060  
(908) 412-3574  
<http://www.ucc.edu/go/eipdc>



## Additional Resources

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- NJ Department of Education
  - Office of Special Education Programs
    - Website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/deaf>
      - Memos
      - Updates
  - Office of Licensure and Credentials
    - Website: <http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license>
      - Current fee schedule
      - On-line application procedures
      - Updates