



Who am I?



EVA

Underberg

GSD Staff

NIC Certified

Interpreter

eunderberg@doe.k12.ga.us

What is an Interpreter?



A sign language interpreter is one who facilitates communication between deaf/hard of hearing and hearing.

A person who knows sign language from a relative or has learned sign language through taking a few basic sign courses is a “signer”. This is a person who knows sign language and can communicate with deaf people on a basic or fluent level but has not received adequate interpreting training. A majority of professional interpreters have received formal training through Interpreter Training Programs, advanced interpreting classes, and/or interpreting workshops. A professional interpreter has also been tested and/or evaluated with skill assessments and/or evaluations.

Where are interpreters used?

- Schools / Colleges
- Police
- Lawyers
- Court
- Doctor office
- Conferences / workshops
- Video Phone (Sorenson)
- Job interview
- Church
- Politics
- News
- Theater / Concert
- Hospitals

Can my family/friends be my interpreter?

I would not suggest that.

- Just because one can sign and communicate does not mean that they are qualified to interpret.
- Emotions set in: family and friends are often too involved; if it is a hospital visit, or funeral.....
- Impartial: it is hard for a family or friend to stay impartial, either trying to help or are too interested in the outcome of the communication.
- Sometimes the deaf member just wants something to be private: doctor appointment , or job interview....

My Rights to having an Interpreter.

You have the right to have a qualified interpreter under the ADA law.

The law defines a qualified interpreter as someone who “can interpret effectively, accurately and impartially, both expressively and receptively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary”.

- ❖ “can interpret effectively” signing skills alone does not mean someone can interpret. The interpreter must be able to provide “effective communication”. There is more than just being able to sign.
- ❖ “accurately” interpreter must be able to give information without anything being added or left out, without changing anything.
- ❖ “impartially” interpreter must not be emotionally involved.
- ❖ “expressively and receptively” interpreter must be able to recognize what language is being used by the deaf and use them: ASL (American Sign Language), PSE (Pidgin Sign Language), SEE (Signing Exact English)...
- ❖ “using any necessary specialized vocabulary” interpreters should be able to understand and use jargons used in certain situations.

A “qualified” interpreter knows which situation they are qualified for and will refuse to accept jobs where they do not have the requisite knowledge or vocabulary.

Your Rights

You have Legal
Rights to have an
Interpreter.

ADA
American with
Disabilities Act

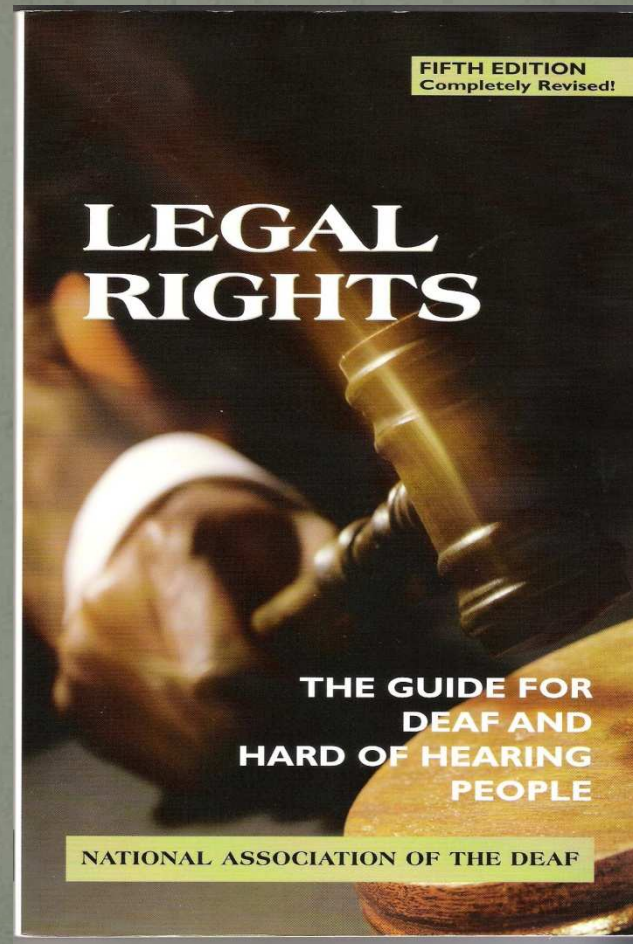
Here are 2 out of
several laws:

IDEA
Individuals with
Disabilities
Education Act
(includes IEP)

Who is responsible for hiring Interpreter

You are responsible for telling: Doctor, Job, Lawyer....that you want an interpreter. They are responsible for hiring the interpreter, not you.

You are responsible for hiring if it is a personal Event:
wedding/funeral...



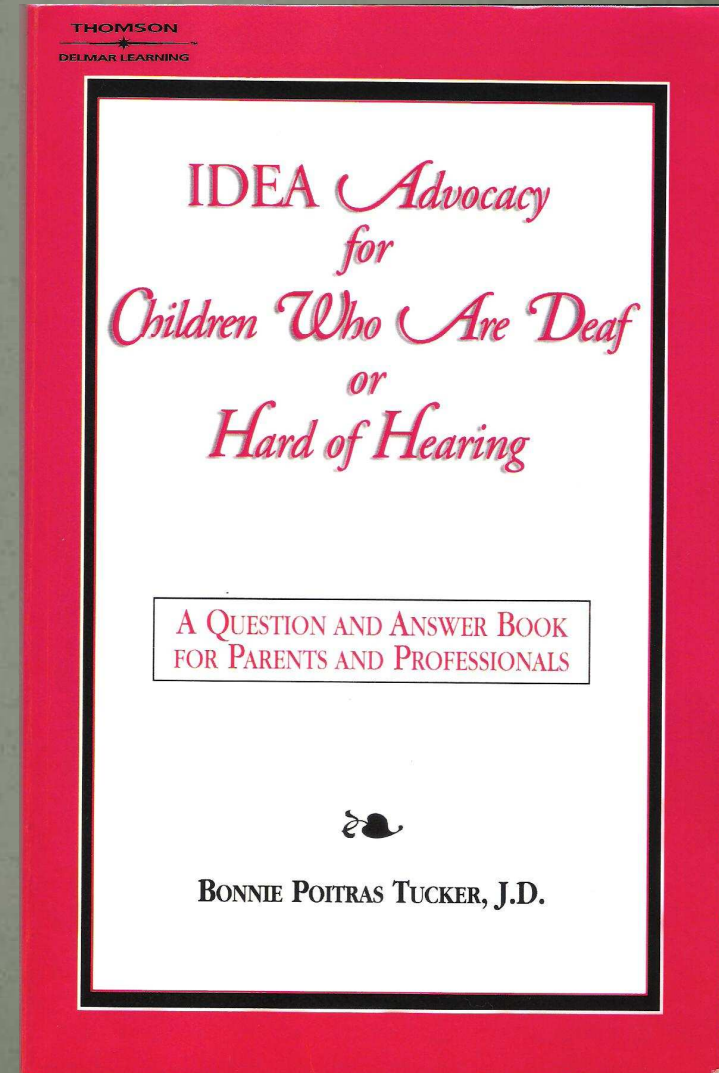
IDEA

Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act.

This replaces PL 94-142:

Mandates that children with
disabilities be educated in the
“least restrictive environment”.
Including interpreting in
elementary, secondary and post-
secondary institutions.

[www. Classroominterpreting.org](http://www.Classroominterpreting.org)



How do you find an Interpreter?

Agencies In GA

- GISN (Atlanta, GA)
Georgia Interpreting Services
Network (404-521-9100)
- SLIS (Gainesville, GA)
Sign Language
Interpreting Services (770-
298-3577)
- CIRS (Savannah, GA)
Centralized Interpreter
Referral Services
(912-657-2784)

In your hometown,
you can go to:

www.rid.org



Search tool:

- Find an interpreter/member
- Find Interpreter Agency / Referral Services

Then type your city to find an interpreter near you.

Resources on Interpreting and Your Rights


- RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf)

- www.rid.org

This website describes the qualifications / certifications of interpreters. How to find an interpreter.

- GACHI (Georgia Council for the Hearing Impaired)

- www.gachi.org

P O L I C E	I am Deaf I have special communication needs. See the back of this card on how to best communicate with me. <small>Co-presenter of</small> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I use American Sign Language.• Please use paper and pen.• If I am being arrested or taken in for questioning, I will need a sign language interpreter.

Order through
GACHI

Online Legal Resources

www.Ada.gov

www.handsandvoices.org

www.Classroominterpreting.org

[www.](http://www.southwestada.org/html/publications/dlh/index.html)

[southwestada.org/html/publications/dlh/index.html](http://www.southwestada.org/html/publications/dlh/index.html)