

NOT YET READY FOR PRIME TIME INTERPRETING PROGRAM

Department of Linguistics, University of Southern Maine and Alpha One, South Portland, Maine

Agreement to Abide the Program's Policy

Student interpreters:

1. Will receive no monetary compensation for their work. Their compensation will be the experience, which includes guidance and feedback from a trained participating consumer/mentor.
2. Will not interpret in any situation where a professional interpreter is legally required to be provided; inability or unwillingness to pay an interpreter on the part of a service provider that the Deaf individual is trying to access is not justification for requesting a Not-Yet-Ready interpreter.
3. Will not interpret in any situation in which an inadequate interpretation could bring physical or financial, legal, or personal risk to the consumer.
4. Will obtain feedback from the consumers on their performance.
5. Will adhere to ALL the tenets of the RID code of ethics, including compensation for services. The only compensation Not-Yet-Ready interpreters receive is candid feedback from and joint problem solving with the Deaf consumer.

Consumer/Mentors:

1. Will agree from the beginning that there is no assurance of the skill or competence one would expect from a professional interpreter. A student is a work in progress.
2. Will clearly and in advance define the situation for which they request student interpreters.
3. Will not seek to use student interpreters in inappropriate situations. When doubt arises as to what is appropriate, consumers will accept the determination of the program coordinator at USM.
4. Will when possible meet with the student interpreter in advance to brief her/him on the situation.
5. Will provide constructive feedback to the student interpreter.
6. Will remain mindful that student interpreters are students, and at the same time expect and encourage professional behavior.

Both student interpreters and consumer/mentors:

1. Will register with the program.
2. Will undergo training prior to their first assignment./use of this service.
3. Participate in training that will cover:
 - a. the nature of interpreting;
 - b. the respective roles of the consumer and interpreter;
 - c. using interpreters effectively;
 - d. what is and is not appropriate use of student interpreters;
 - e. how to provide and process constructive feedback;
 - f. how to fill out the program documentation;
 - g. how to deal with foreseeable emergencies;
 - h. how to reach the designated emergency contact for an assignment.
4. Will sign contracts agreeing to the program rules. Non-compliance with these rules will result in dismissal/exclusion from the program.

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5. Will be provided with instructions on how to make emergency contact with program staff during each assignment, but will also hold program staff and the University of Southern Maine free of liability for circumstances outside of the control of the program.

I, the undersigned, agree to abide the program's policy listed above for Not Yet Ready for Prime Time Interpreting Program at the University of Southern Maine.

Participant's Name _____

Participant's Signature _____

Date _____