

American Sign Language/English Interpreting in North Dakota

Life in the vast lane...



Education/Experience

- High degree of linguistic, cognitive and technical skills in American Sign Language & Deaf culture (ASL) **and** English
- Bachelors degree and/or equivalent experience
- Adhere to Code of Professional Conduct/Ethics
 - CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION
 - Possess skills & knowledge for specific interpreting situations
 - Appropriate conduct: punctual, proper dress & grooming
 - Demonstrate respect for consumers (Deaf and hearing)/FLEXIBLE
 - Respect for colleagues, interns, and students of the profession: Flexible/“play well with others”
 - Maintain ethical business practices
 - Engage in professional development: skills, knowledge, culture
 - Workshops, conferences, reading: life-long learners/students
 - Current events: local & national news, sports, weather, etc.
 - Participate regularly in Deaf-hosted events/activities

Where do interpreters work?

- Freelance agencies
- Self-employed independent contractors
- Education
 - Preschool, K-12
 - Magnet/charter schools for the deaf (Metro Deaf School – St. Paul, MN)
 - Residential schools for the deaf (ND School for the Deaf)
 - Post-secondary (colleges, universities)
- Medical field
- Mental health
- Legal settings
- Theatre
- Local, state and federal government
- Conferences and conventions
- Video remote interpreting
- Video relay interpreting

ND Century Code – Chapter 43-52

- 43-52-02. Practice of interpreting.

An individual may not practice or represent as an interpreter for the deaf, deaf-blind, speech-impaired, or hard-of-hearing individuals in the state unless the individual holds a valid nationally-recognized certification.

Nationally recognized certification

- 43-52-01. Definitions.

4. “Nationally recognized certification” means certification granted by a national organization that is based on a skills assessment of the applicant. These organizations include:

- The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

education ■ standards ■ excellence

The logo for the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) features the letters 'RID' in a large, bold, black serif font. The 'R' and 'D' are connected at the top, and the 'I' is positioned between them. The letters are set against a white background.

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

- The National Association of the Deaf



NDCC 43-52-03. Exceptions.

- This chapter does not prevent or restrict:
 2. An interpreter working at a religious activity.
 3. An interpreter working as a volunteer without compensation.
 4. An interpreter working in an emergency...[until a certified interpreter is obtained].
 5. Interpreter interns or students-in-training...under supervision of a certified interpreter.
 6. An individual...communicating with/on behalf of [consumer(s)] who has/have specifically requested that that use by that individual.

NDCC 43-52-03. Exceptions.

- This chapter does not prevent or restrict:

9. An individual working in an elementary or secondary school who has passed the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) at a level of 3.5 or higher.



- This chapter does not prevent or restrict:

10. An individual who has successfully completed an accredited interpreter training program (ITP):

- Without certification for ...up to two years...if, during that period
- The individual is mentored by a certified interpreter or a deaf adult

What's the difference?

EIPA

- Score system: 0.0/5.0
- Diagnostic feedback
- Performance evaluation; written test optional
- 3.5+ required in most states
- No prerequisites
- CEUs not required at this time

RID

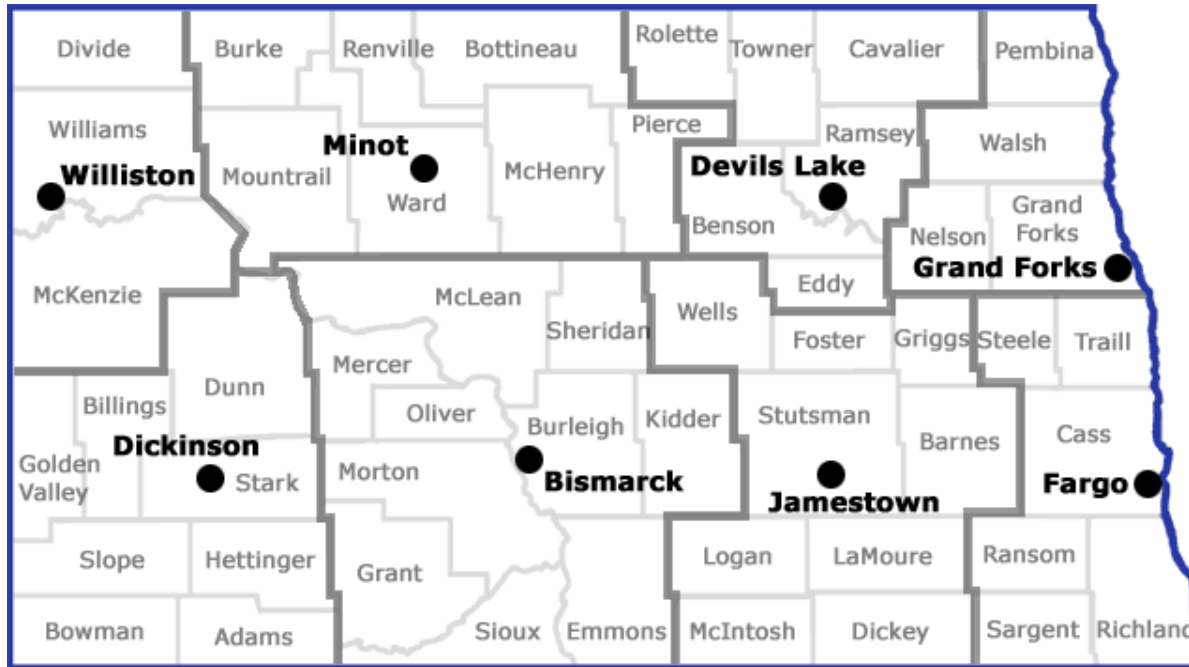
- Strictly pass/fail
- Written AND performance tests required
- Candidates must have a bachelors degree
- CEUs required to maintain certification (8.0/4-year cycle)

Interpreters in ND...by the numbers

- A total of 20 members of RID
 - 16 Certified
 - 1 full-time freelance interpreter
 - 4 work full-time in educational settings (& freelance when available)
 - 10 part-time freelance interpreters (3 work full-time in non-interpreting related fields)
 - 1 is inactive
 - 3 Associate
 - 1 Student

Statistics from RID.org current as of 11/20/17

Where are the certified interpreters?



www.rid.org (11/20/17)

Williston: 1	Minot: 2	Devils Lake area: 3	Grand Forks area: 3
Dickinson: 0	Bis/Man: 3	Jamestown: 0	Fargo: 3

Interpreting in ND...

Cons

- No work/no experience
 - No experience/no work
- Paras vs. interpreters
- Shortage of certified freelance interpreters
- No licensing board
- Rural distances/time to assignments

Pros

- Supportive Deaf community
- Variety of assignments
- Resources
 - Mentors
 - MARIE Center
 - NDSD/Resources
 - Two workshops/year
 - Educational materials
 - Communication assessments

Where to find interpreters... (on-site/live)

- www.nd.gov/ndsd/
 - ND Freelance Interpreters List (center left on screen)
 - <http://www.nd.gov/nds/outreach/doc/freelance-interpreters.pdf>
- www.rid.org
 - Search Tools (upper right side of screen)
 - Find a Member
 - Searchable database



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RID

Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

Where to find interpreters... (on-site/live)

- ASL Interpreting Services (ASLIS)

Golden Valley, MN

Phone: 1-866-ASL(275)-
DEAF(3323)

Email: info@aslis.com

Web: aslis.com

- Certified Interpreting and Consultants, Inc. (CIC)

Detroit Lakes, MN

Phone: (877) 283-5331

Email:

cicpartners@hotmail.com



Video Relay Service (VRS)

- VRS, AKA *video interpreting*, is a telecommunication service that allows deaf and hard of hearing individuals to communicate over video telephones with hearing people in real-time, via sign language interpreters
 - The hearing and deaf/HH consumers are each located in different places.
 - There is NO CHARGE for this service.
- Demo: [NVRC Technology Demonstration: Video Relay Services](#)
- Available 24/7/365

Video Relay Service (VRS)



Video relay caller uses webcam or video phone to sign to a video interpreter

The interpreter voices to hearing telephone user and interprets messages back to deaf video relay caller

Computer display with Video Interpreter

www.ntid.rit.edu

Where can VRS be accessed?

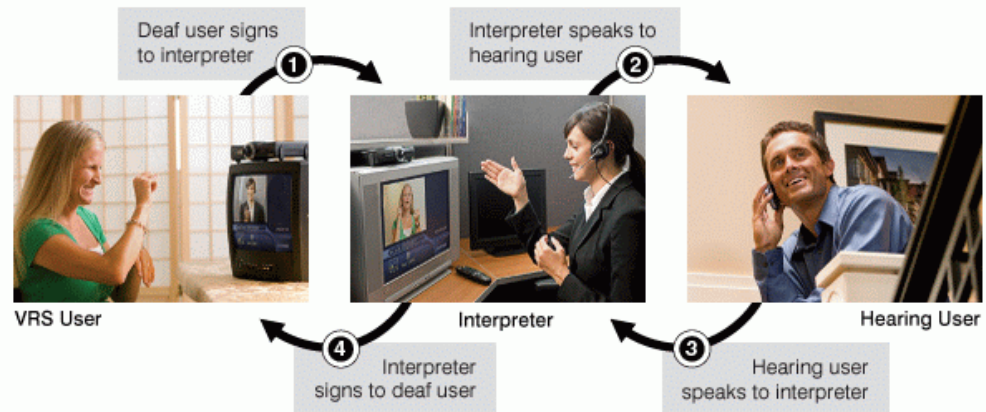
- purple.us/trynow



- sorensonvrs.com/



- zvrs.com



Video Remote Interpreting (VRI)

- VRI is an on-demand video telecommunication service that provides sign language or spoken language interpreting delivered over a live internet video connection using web cameras or videophones
 - Hearing and deaf/HH parties are physically present in the same location.
 - A remote or offsite interpreter provides communication facilitation.
 - Fee-based, requires contract
- Demo: <https://lsaweb.com/solutions/video-remote-interpreting-3>
- Available 24/7/365



www.alldeaf.com



www.partnersinterpreting.com

Where can VRI be accessed?

- <http://www.cyracom.com/vri/>



- Lsaveideo.com/



- purple.us/trynow



dars.state.tx.us

Where to find VRI interpreters... (for medical or legal settings)

stratusvideo.com/

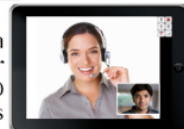


STRATUS
video interpreting



Touch Desired
Language

Connect with a
live interpreter
in less than 30
seconds



- Legal & medical interpreting
- 175 spoken and signed languages
- 60,000 calls processed/day
- Available 24/7/365
- Fee-based, requires contract

Technology for clients who are hard-of-hearing/late-deafened

- www.captel.com/captel
(Provided by Sprint)
- www.relaynorthdakota.com/
- 711
 - CapTel user calls:
800.366.6888 or 711 (TTY)
 - Voice user calls:
800.366.6889 or 711 (Voice)
- Free of charge
- Available 24/7/365

CapTel™ (Captioned Telephone)



Resources

- Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment
www.classroominterpreting.org/eipa
- National Association of the Deaf – www.nad.org/
- North Dakota Century Code – Chapter 43-52 Interpreters
www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t43c52.pd
- Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf –
<http://www.rid.org/ethics/code-of-professional-conduct/>

Questions/More information

Renae Bitner, BS, CI/CT, ED:K-12

Outreach Interpreter

ND School for the Deaf/
Resource Center for the
Deaf/Hard of Hearing

418 E. Broadway Ave., #15

Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-328-3988

Cell: 701-740-7753

VP: 701-354-3033

Email: renae.bitner@k12.nd.us

