

Number: OSDS 9.00
Section: Office of Student Disability Services

Subject: Interpreters for Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Date: July 1, 2007

Policy for: Office of Student Disability Services; Columbia Campus
Procedure For: Office of Student Disability Services; Columbia Campus
Authorized by: Karen Pettus
Issued by: Office of Student Disability Services

I. Policy

USC provides federally mandated interpreting services and other accommodations for qualified students who are deaf/hard-of-hearing. Services involve a variety of language models, including American Sign Language, and Cued Speech Transliterations. These services are provided by qualified, certified interpreters who are hired mostly through agencies and in some cases we use freelance interpreters. In situations where an interpreter is not available other communication services may be used to include Computer-Aided Real Time (CART) and C-Print.

The university is responsible for funding all interpreting services related to all enrolled degree and non degree students (graduate or undergraduate). These services are provided for all academic courses and course-related activities such as internships, field trips, and co curricular activities.

II. Procedure

Students who want to request accommodations must register with the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). For information on how to register, see our website: www.sa.sc.edu/sds The registration process involves a few steps and generally takes a minimum or 4-6 weeks to complete, so you should start the process early. Any student who has accessibility concerns while using the website should contact OSDS at 777-6142 or visit OSDS in 112A LeConte for assistance. Documentation required for deaf or hard of hearing must include a current audiogram. Accommodations must be requested in advance through the OSDS. All student interpreter requests are processed through the Interpreter Coordinator, within the OSDS. Requests are processed on a first-come, first-served basis with a priority given to currently enrolled students. Interpreters needed for academic classes take priority over nonacademic activities.