

84.160 Training of Interpreters for Individuals who are Deaf and Individuals Who are Deaf Blind  
34 CFR PART 396

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Subpart A\_General

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Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f), unless otherwise noted.

Source: 59 FR 52220, Oct. 14, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

The Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who Are Deaf and Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind program is designed to establish interpreter training programs or to assist ongoing programs to train a sufficient number of skilled interpreters throughout the country in order to meet the communication needs of individuals who are deaf and

individuals who are deaf-blind by--

- (a) Training manual, tactile, oral, and cued speech interpreters;
- (b) Ensuring the maintenance of the skills of interpreters; and
- (c) Providing opportunities for interpreters to raise their level of competence.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Subpart A\_General

Sec. 396.2 Who is eligible for an award?

Public and private nonprofit agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education, are eligible for assistance under this program.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Subpart A\_General

Sec. 396.3 What regulations apply?

The following regulations apply to the Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who Are Deaf and Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind program:

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR part 74 (Administration of Grants to Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Nonprofit Organizations).

(2) 34 CFR part 75 (Direct Grant Programs).

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions That Apply to Department Regulations).

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(4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).

(5) 34 CFR part 80 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments).

(6) 34 CFR part 81 (General Education Provisions Act--Enforcement).

(7) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).

(8) 34 CFR part 85 (Government Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).

(9) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).

(b) The regulations in this part 396.

(c) The following regulations in 34 CFR part 385:

(1) Section 385.32.

(2) Section 385.40.

(3) Section 385.44.

(4) Section 385.45.

(5) Section 385.46.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Subpart A\_General

Sec. 396.4 What definitions apply?

(a) Definitions in EDGAR. The following terms defined in 34 CFR 77.1 apply to this part:

Applicant  
Application  
Award  
Equipment  
Grant  
Nonprofit  
Private  
Project  
Public  
Secretary  
Supplies

(b) Definitions in the rehabilitation training regulations. The following terms defined in 34 CFR 385.4(b) apply to this part:

Individual With a Disability  
Institution of Higher Education

(c) Other definitions. The following definitions also apply to this part:

Existing program that has demonstrated its capacity for providing interpreter training services means an established program with--

(1) A record of training interpreters who are serving the deaf and deaf-blind communities; and

(2) An established curriculum that is suitable for training interpreters.

Individual who is deaf means an individual who has a hearing impairment of such severity that the individual must depend primarily upon visual modes, such as sign language, lip reading, and gestures, or reading and writing to facilitate communication.

Individual who is deaf-blind means an individual--

(1)(i) Who has a central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with corrective lenses, or a field defect such that the peripheral diameter of visual field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees, or a progressive visual loss having a prognosis leading to one or both of these conditions;

(ii) Who has a chronic hearing impairment so severe that most speech cannot be understood with optimum amplification, or a progressive hearing loss having a prognosis leading to this condition; and

(iii) For whom the combination of impairments described in paragraphs (1)(i) and (ii) of this definition causes extreme difficulty in attaining independence in daily life activities, achieving psychosocial adjustment, or obtaining a vocation;

(2) Who, despite the inability to be measured accurately for hearing and vision loss due to cognitive or behavioral constraints, or both, can be determined through functional and performance assessment to have severe hearing and visual disabilities that cause extreme difficulty in

attaining independence in daily life activities, achieving psychosocial adjustment, or obtaining vocational objectives; or

(3) Who meets any other requirements that the Secretary may prescribe.

Interpreter for individuals who are deaf means a qualified professional who uses sign language skills, cued speech, or oral interpreting skills, as appropriate to the needs of individuals who are deaf, to facilitate communication between individuals who are deaf and other individuals.

Interpreter for individuals who are deaf-blind means a qualified professional who uses tactile or other manual language or fingerspelling modes, as

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appropriate to the needs of individuals who are deaf-blind, to facilitate communication between individuals who are deaf-blind and other individuals.

Qualified professional means an individual who has either--

(1) Met existing national or state certification or evaluation requirements; or

(2) Successfully demonstrated equivalent interpreting skills through prior work experience.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 711(c) and 771a(f); 29 U.S.C 1905)

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#### Subpart A\_General

Sec. 396.5 What activities may the Secretary fund?

The Secretary provides assistance for projects that provide training in interpreting skills for persons preparing to serve, and persons who are already serving, as interpreters for individuals who are deaf and as interpreters for individuals who are deaf-blind in public and private agencies, schools, and other service-providing institutions.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

Subpart B [Reserved]

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Subpart C\_How Does One Apply for an Award?

Sec. 396.20 What must be included in an application?

Each applicant shall include in the application--

(a) A description of the manner in which the proposed interpreter training program will be developed and operated during the five-year period following the award of the grant;

(b) A description of the geographical area to be served by the project;

(c) A description of the applicant's capacity or potential for providing training for interpreters for individuals who are deaf and interpreters for individuals who are deaf-blind;

(d) An assurance that any interpreter trained or retrained under this program shall meet any minimum standards of competency that the Secretary may establish;

(e) An assurance that the project shall cooperate or coordinate its activities, as appropriate, with the activities of other projects funded under this program; and

(f) The descriptions required in 34 CFR 385.45 with regard to the training of individuals with disabilities, including those from minority groups, for rehabilitation careers.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1820-0018)

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 718b(b)(6), 777a(a)(5), and 771a(f))

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Subpart D\_How Does the Secretary Make an Award?

Sec. 396.30 How does the Secretary evaluate an application?

(a) The Secretary evaluates applications under the procedures in 34  
CFR part 75.

(b) The Secretary evaluates each application using selection  
criteria in Sec. 396.31.

(c) In addition to the selection criteria described in paragraph (b)  
of this section, the Secretary evaluates each application using--

(1) Selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210;

(2) Selection criteria established under 34 CFR 75.209; or

(3) A combination of selection criteria established under 34 CFR  
75.209 and selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Subpart D\_How Does the Secretary Make an Award?

Sec. 396.31 What additional selection criteria are used under this  
program?

In addition to the criteria in 34 CFR 396.30(c), the Secretary uses  
the following additional selection criterion to evaluate an application:

(a) Demonstrated relationships with service providers and consumers.

The Secretary reviews each application to determine the extent to  
which--

(1) The proposed interpreter training project was developed in consultation with service providers;

(2) The training is appropriate to the needs of both individuals who are deaf and individuals who are deaf-blind and to the needs of public and private agencies that provide services to either individuals who are deaf or individuals who are deaf-blind in the geographical area to be served by the training project;

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(3) There is a working relationship between the interpreter training project and service providers; and

(4) There are opportunities for individuals who are deaf and individuals who are deaf-blind to be involved in the training project.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Subpart D\_How Does the Secretary Make an Award?

Sec. 396.32 What additional factors does the Secretary consider in making awards?

In addition to the selection criteria listed in Sec. 396.31 and 34 CFR 75.210, the Secretary, in making awards under this part, considers the geographical distribution of projects throughout the country, as appropriate, in order to best carry out the purposes of this program. To accomplish this, the Secretary may in any fiscal year make awards of regional or national scope.

(Authority: 29 U.S.C. 771a(f))

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Sec. 396.33 What priorities does the Secretary apply in making awards?  
The Secretary, in making awards under this part, gives priority to  
public or private nonprofit agencies or organizations with existing  
programs that have demonstrated their capacity for providing interpreter  
training services.  
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