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Governor



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State of Nevada
**Department of Health and
Human Services**

Nevada Administrative Code 656A Public Workshop

Aging and Disability Services Division
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7/30/2021

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Agenda

1. Public comment
2. Explanation of Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 656A
3. Explanation of new credential standards and requirements for interpreters
4. Discussion and recommendations on new minimum standards by regulation
5. Public comment
6. Adjourn



To Make Public Comments

Send a message to TECH SUPPORT and give them the following information:

1. Full name for the record
 2. What language you will use -
Spoken English or ASL
- You will be put in line to comment.
 - Your name will be called when it is your turn to comment.
 - Please turn your video on and you will be spotlighted during your comment.
 - Any comments in chat are public record and will be documented in the official meeting minutes.



1. Public Comment





2. Explanation of Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 656A





Law vs Regulations

- Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) – The law that gives authority and sets minimum
- **Text in RED have been approved by the legislature and is now the law.**
- Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) – The regulations that prescribe specifically how the law will be carried out
- **Text in GREEN are proposed regulations and will be presented for your input.**

Nevada Revised Statute 656A

- NRS 656A was established in 2001 and has been updated 3 times (2005, 2007, 2021)
- The law requires that sign language interpreters meet minimum credential standards in this state to protect consumers
- The most recent update by Senate Bill 179:
 - Reduces unnecessary registration categories
 - Increases the minimum credential standards for educational interpreters
 - Creates limited provisional registrations for underqualified interpreters
 - Adds or modifies some definitions





3. Explanation of new credential standards and requirements for interpreters





New Minimum Credential Standards

- **Community Professional**: Nationally recognized interpreter or transliterator certification
- **Community Provisional**
- **Educational Professional**: Minimum EIPA 4.0
- **Educational Provisional**: EIPA 3.5 – 3.9

Minimum credentials, scope of practice,
and renewal requirements to be
determined in the NAC





Additional New Requirements

Provisional registrations

- Limited to **5 years** total.
- Anyone who is currently registered and does not meet Professional registration is registered as **Provisional** until **July 1, 2026**.



4. Discussion and recommendations on new minimum standards by regulation



Considerations for Minimum Education Level for Interpreters

Recommendation:

- **Bachelor's degree in any field or approved educational equivalency. Currently registered interpreters will be exempt from this requirement.**

Rationale:

- A minimum of a bachelor's degree is required for eligibility to take the National Interpreter Certification (NIC)
- The National Association of Interpreter in Education (NAIE) recommends the minimum pre-service education level for educational interpreters be a bachelor's degree

Considerations for Community Professional Registration

Minimum Credential Recommendation:

- **A nationally recognized sign language interpreter or transliterator certification;**

OR

- **EIPA score of 4.0+ and nationally recognized certification knowledge examination**

Scope of Practice Recommendation:

- **Interpreters will accept community assignments with due caution and care commensurate with their knowledge and experience.**

Renewal Recommendation:

- **Maintain certification annually;**

OR

- **20 hours of professional development annually**



Considerations for Community Provisional Registration

Minimum Credential Recommendation:

- Any state certification that includes a written knowledge exam and a performance exam that does not equate to a national certification

OR

- Completion of an ITP OR an EIPA score of 3.5 - 3.9

AND

- Passage of a national certification knowledge exam

Scope of Practice Recommendation:

- May not interpret in legal or medical settings
- Will accept community assignments with due caution and care commensurate with their knowledge and experience

Renewal Recommendation:

- 20 hours of professional development annually
- 20 hours of professional mentoring annually



Considerations for Educational Professional Registration

Minimum Credential Recommendation:

- **EIPA score of 4.0+; OR a nationally recognized sign language interpreter or transliterator certification**
AND
- **Passage of the EIPA Written Knowledge Test**

Scope of Practice Recommendation:

- **Will accept educational assignments with due caution and care commensurate with their knowledge and experience**

Renewal Recommendation:

- **20 hours of professional development annually**
OR
- **Maintain certification annually**



Considerations for Educational Provisional Registration

Minimum Credential Recommendation:

- **EIPA score of 3.5 – 3.9;**

AND

- **A passing score on the EIPA Written Knowledge Test**

Scope of Practice Recommendation:

- **Will accept educational assignments with due caution and care commensurate with their knowledge and experience**

Renewal Recommendation:

- **20 hours of professional development annually**
- **20 hours of professional mentoring annually**



Considerations for Student Registration

Minimum Credential Recommendation:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Be currently enrolled in an ITP course that requires practicum or internship experience

Scope of Practice Recommendation:

- Must not provide interpreting in medical or legal settings
- Must be supervised at all times by a professionally registered interpreter

Renewal Recommendation:

- Registration will expire upon completion of the course, may be renewed as needed



Considerations for Professional Mentor Qualifications

Recommendation:

- An individual who meets the qualifications to be registered at the Professional level

OR

- A D/deaf or hard of hearing individual who uses ASL as their primary mode of communication



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5. Public comment



Thank you!



Definitions

- EIPA – Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment
- ITP – Interpreter Training Program
- NAC – Nevada Administrative Code
- NRS – Nevada Revised Statute



Contact Information

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