

# What Is Mentoring?

**According to the Nevada Interpreter/CART Registry, mentoring means activities facilitated by a mentor that are individually tailored to improve the skills and knowledge of an interpreter.**

Mentoring is required for provisionally registered interpreters to maintain their registration. They must provide proof of participation in at least 20 hours of mentoring per year as part of their renewal application. Mentoring activities must have occurred during the current registration cycle, beginning the date of the most recent application was approved until the date the renewal application for the next year is submitted. Mentoring activities must be presented on a log that includes:

- The interpreter's name
- The mentor's name
- Dates and brief descriptions of mentoring activities  
(descriptions are used to determine if the activities meet the definition of mentoring)
- Time spent on each activity
- Total time for all mentoring activities

Mentoring is different than working with a team interpreter or debriefing after an assignment. Instead, mentoring is an ongoing learning relationship between a mentor and mentee where the mentor guides the mentee in setting specific goals and developing relevant deliberate practice activities. Mentoring is designed to help interpreters refine their skills, make ethical decisions, and gain confidence in their work.

**The main goal of the mentoring requirement is to help interpreters qualify for full registration within the five-year provisional status limit.**

It is the mentee's responsibility to determine whether mentoring activities:

1. Meet the definition of "mentoring" for the purpose of registration renewal, and
2. Will help them achieve the credentials for full registration within the 5-year provisional status timeline.

## Mentoring is...

- discussing an assignment before and/or after the event with your mentor in relation to your professional goals and as an ongoing conversation.
- observing your mentor interpret a public event and discussing their preparation, process, and decision making while interpreting.
- meeting up with your mentor to discuss invoicing, rates, and establishing your interpreting business.

## Mentoring is not...

- discussing an assignment before and/or after the event with a team.
- observing an interpreter at a public event that you do not have an established mentoring relationship with.
- meeting up with a friend or colleague to discuss invoicing, rates, and establishing your business.



For questions, please contact:

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# Getting Started with a Mentor

## Tip Sheet

Mentorship is a powerful way to grow as a sign language interpreter. Use this guide to reflect on your goals and prepare for a successful mentoring relationship.

### Step 1: Reflect on Your Goals

Before reaching out to a mentor, take time to reflect on your needs and aspirations.

#### Self-Reflection Questions:

- Why did I become an interpreter?
- What are my short- and long-term goals?
- What settings or certifications am I interested in?
- What are my strengths and areas for growth?
- How do I learn best?
- What kind of support do I want from a mentor?
- How much time can I commit to this relationship?

### Step 2: Connect with a Mentor

When meeting a prospective mentor, ask thoughtful questions to ensure a good fit.

#### Questions to Ask a Mentor:

- Can you share your journey as an interpreter?
- What settings have you worked in?
- Have you mentored others before?
- How do you approach giving feedback?
- What do you expect from someone you mentor?
- How often are you available to meet?
- Are you open to shadowing or team interpreting?
- What would make this relationship meaningful for you?

#### Tips for a Successful Mentoring Relationship

- Be open to feedback and growth.
- Set clear goals and revisit them regularly.
- Communicate honestly and respectfully.
- Take initiative—mentoring is a two-way street.
- Celebrate progress, not just perfection.

**Use this sheet as a conversation starter or journaling tool. Revisit your reflections regularly to track your growth.**