

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER PREPARATORY PROGRAM

 Frederick Community College



Program Contact

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American Sign Language Interpreter Preparatory Program

The American Sign Language Interpreter Preparatory Program offers degree and certificate programs designed to provide students with a strong foundation of knowledge, skills, and practical experience to become successful working interpreters. Courses teach theoretical, ethical, cultural, and practical knowledge of the interpreting field, as well as cognitive processing skills to effectively interpret to prepare students for entry-level sign language interpreter positions or to transfer to a four-year college or university.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreter Preparatory Program A.A.S. Degree & Certificate Programs

The A.A.S. degree program is ideal for students who want to become ASL interpreters and do not already hold a degree. The certificate program is ideal for students who want to become ASL interpreters, but already hold a degree. These programs prepare students to work as an entry-level sign language interpreter to facilitate and mediate communication between Deaf/hard of hearing and hearing people.

Students will develop receptive and expressive skills in ASL and will experience a variety of learning environments, including classroom work, laboratory practice, and field placement. Students will be required to have both in-class and out-of-class experiences with members of the Deaf community to further develop ASL fluency and cultural competency.

Learning Outcomes

- Apply theoretical, ethical, cultural, and practical knowledge of the interpreting field needed to pass the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) certification knowledge written test.
- Understand major linguistic features of ASL and English and the major cultural features of Deaf and non-Deaf communities.
- Possess cognitive processing skills to effectively interpret between English and ASL and to transliterate between spoken English and a signed form of English.
- Comprehend different modes of interpreting/transliterating (i.e. consecutive and simultaneous) and choose the appropriate mode in a given setting/situation.
- Provide an accurate and appropriate transfer of a message from a source language into a target language from the point of view of style, culture, and the linguistic needs of the consumers.

View required course listings: frederick.edu/ASL-IPP

For more information:

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Growth Potential & Estimated Salaries

The median annual wage for interpreters and translators was \$49,930 in 2018. Overall employment of interpreters and translators is projected to grow 19 percent from 2018 to 2028, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook (bls.gov/ooh)

Internship Program

Internships help students integrate what is taught in the classroom with what is required in the workplace. Students take internships to develop knowledge and skills valued by employers. Students in the ASL Interpreter Preparatory Program at Frederick Community College (FCC) are eligible to receive credit for internships.

Financial Assistance

FCC provides a tuition payment plan for students who wish to spread payment over several months. Scholarship and loan assistance is available for eligible students. For complete scholarship information, contact Financial Aid at 301.846.2620.

Transfer Note

FCC has an articulation agreement with Stevenson University, allowing students a seamless transfer experience. To find more information about how credits will transfer from FCC to a state four-year institution, visit artsys.usmd.edu or consult a College advisor. Students who plan to transfer should speak with an advisor or program manager from their chosen transfer institution before selecting elective courses.

Frederick Community College prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, creed, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, genetic information, marital status, mental or physical disability, national origin, race, religious affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status in its activities, admissions, educational programs, and employment.

Frederick Community College makes every effort to accommodate individuals with disabilities for College-sponsored events and programs. If you have accommodation needs or questions, please call 301.846.2408. To request a sign language interpreter, please visit <http://fcc-interpreting.genbook.com>. If you have interpreting related questions, please email Interpreting@frederick.edu. Sign language interpreters will not be automatically provided for College-sponsored events without a request for services. To guarantee accommodations, requests must be made at least five workdays in advance of a scheduled event. If your request pertains to accessible transportation for a College-sponsored trip, please submit your request at least 21 calendar days in advance. Requests made less than 21 calendar days in advance may not be able to be guaranteed.