



New Mexico Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Toll-Free: 1.800.489.8536 | Albuquerque 505.383.6530

Website: www.cdhh.nm.gov

Applying for a New Mexico Interpreting License

For more information contact:

nmcdhh.info@cdhh.nm.gov

505.383.6530 Voice/TTY

505.435.9319 Videophone for Sign Language Users

New Mexico has three different interpreting licenses issued by the Signed Language Interpreting Practices Board (SLIPB) at the Regulation and Licensing Department: Provisional, Educational, and Community. Interpreters with a Provisional or Community license can work in both community and K-12 educational settings. The Educational license is valid only for K-12 work.

The application process is through an online system accessed from the Signed Language Interpreting Practices Board (SLIPB) website: www.rld.nm.gov/boards-and-commissions/individual-boards-and-commissions/signed-language-interpreting-practices/. Click on “Licensing, Registration, and Renewal” then on the NM-PLUS logo at the top of the page.



Based on the lists of requirements below, select the license you qualify for to start the process. The system will automatically walk you through a series of questions specific to the license you selected. At the end of the process you will upload the required documents and pay the fee. Be careful to select the correct license type – if your application is rejected you will need to start over again and the fee is not refundable.

In addition to the requirements listed below, all license applications require:

- Square color photo of your face for the photo ID license.
- Proof of age (Copy of Driver’s License).

Provisional License

- Transcripts showing graduation from an ITP (official or unofficial).
- Proof of current RID Associate Membership – a screenshot of the member portal works well.
- \$40 Payment
- If the ITP transcript shows graduation longer than three years before application, you must also include a résumé and one professional letter of reference from an employer, internship supervisor, mentorship director, graduate school, or other applicable source documenting continued involvement in interpreting or the Deaf community since the time of completion of the program.

- If you are not an ITP graduate but can provide proof of employment as a signed language interpreter at the time the act became effective on June 15, 2007 and a professional résumé, you can also qualify for this license.

Educational License

There are two ways to qualify for the Educational License: hold the Ed:K-12 credential from RID, or meet all of the requirements for the Ed:K-12 credential. RID no longer offers the Ed:K-12 credential, so the New Mexico Licensure Rules were amended to accommodate interpreters who meet all of the requirements.

- Proof of current RID Certified membership showing Ed:K-12 Credential.
OR all of the following showing the Ed:K-12 requirements are met:
- Proof of current RID Associate Membership – a screenshot of the member portal works well.
- EIPA Performance Score of 4.0 or higher
- EIPA Written Test Passing Result
- Proof of BA/BS degree or RID Alternate Pathway
- \$65.00 payment

Community License

There are two ways to qualify for the Community License: hold a certification recognized by RID at the time of application, or one of the following BEI certifications: BEI Advanced or Master; BEI IV or V; BEI Level IV Intermediary or Level V Intermediary.

- Proof of current RID Certified membership – a screenshot of the member portal works well.
OR
- Current BEI card showing one of the certifications listed above.
- \$65.00 payment

Public Education Department License

Educational Interpreters are also required to hold a license from the Public Education Department (PED). Holding one of the three licenses listed above qualifies an interpreter to hold the PED license. This is a completely separate process from the one for the SLIPB licenses. Details and forms can be found at the PED website:

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/licensure/how-to-apply/interpreter-for-the-deaf-pre-k-12>.