

Your Community Needs You!



There is a growing need for interpreters in your community. Perhaps you are bilingual and already assist family or friends through language barriers with health care professionals, school staff, or even at the grocery store. The organization you work for may have bilingual staff members who have some experience or interest in interpreting but not the formal training.

The Blue Ridge Area Health Education Center (Blue Ridge AHEC) has established two interpreter training programs: Health Care Interpreting (Bridging the Gap) and Introduction to Community Interpreting, so you can choose which is right for you. Our organization is non-profit and has been training health care interpreters to serve their communities since 2000. Both programs will best teach you how to ensure clear communication between a patient and their health care or human services provider, and provide cultural context and advocacy when appropriate.

Qualifications

There is no language component in either training program. Prior to being accepted for training, proficiency in both English and a second language must be evaluated through an oral and written examination. Passing the exam demonstrates an applicant's capability to deliver accurate interpretation.

Bridging the Gap (BTG)

Bridging the Gap is a nationally recognized Health Care Interpreter Training Program developed by the Cross Cultural Health Care Program based in the state of Washington. The program was developed to help "bridge the gap" in communications between a patient and health care provider in order to better serve the diverse populations that increasingly characterize our communities.

Curriculum

- Basic Interpreting Skills
- Roles of the Interpreter
- Code of Ethics and Boundaries
- Modes of Interpreting
- Health Care in the U.S.
- Medical terminology
- Culture and its impact on Interpreting
- Interpersonal Skills and Advocacy
- Professional Development



"Interpret everything that is said, exactly as it is said, meaning for meaning; add nothing, omit nothing, change nothing"

Introduction to Community Interpreting (ICI)

The *Introduction to Community Interpreting* curriculum was developed by the Northern Virginia AHEC to provide interpreters with the basic knowledge and skills necessary to facilitate communications between Limited English Proficient individuals and public school personnel, social workers, and other community service workers. This training is ideal for bilingual individuals who are already interpreting at their place of employment, informally for friends and family, or in some other capacity and have not been formally trained in the techniques, methods, and ethics of interpreting.

Curriculum

- Background of Interpretation
- Professional Ethics and Boundaries
- Interpreting in Community Settings
- Types of Interpreters
- Modes of Interpreting
- Guiding the Encounter
- Setting the Tone
- Seating Arrangement

Cost & Benefits

Bridging the Gap

- \$50.00 for Language Proficiency Exam (with medical terminology)
- \$320.00 for 40-hour training program (includes Interpreter Manual and Bilingual Medical Glossary)
- Completion qualifies you to apply for job openings with the Blue Ridge AHEC Community Health Interpreter Service (CHIS) which provides some JMU benefits (inquire for details).

Introduction to Community Interpreting

- \$50.00 for Language Proficiency Exam
- \$170.00 for 20-hour training program (Includes Interpreter Manual and Bilingual Glossary)
- Completion qualifies you to interpret for several local school systems.

Both interpreter training programs improve your credentials as a professional interpreter.

For more information, or to schedule a language proficiency exam, please contact Blue Ridge Area Health Education Program:

Phone: 540.568.3011

Fax: 540.568.3172

E-mail: interpreter@jmu.edu

For more information about our programs please contact:

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Interpreter Training

Health Care and
Community Interpreting

Breaking down barriers in
communication



**Blue Ridge Area Health
Education Center**

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Services