MEETING MINUTES
NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Opening:

The regular board meeting of NCAD duly called and held on April 22, 2021 via ZOOM (online streaming) at 7:00 PM.

Present were:

President – Craig Blevins
Vice President – Meredith De Naples
Treasurer – Treasurer Martina-Moore
Secretary – Jaime Marshall
Eastern Regional Representative – Mike Lupo
Social Media Coordinator – Theresa Moss

Absent:

Central Regional Representative – Linda Nelson
Western Regional Representative – Dayamarali Espinosa

Guests:

Antwan Campbell, NC DPI State-wide Consultant for Interpreters/Transliterator

With the approval of the board members present, President Blevins acted as Chairman of the meeting and Secretary Jaime Marshall recorded the minutes.

Meeting Minutes from the last board meeting (1/28/21) were reviewed.

Motion by: Social Media Coordinator Moss

Seconded by: Representative Espinosa

Vote Count: Majority

AGENDA TOPIC: EIPA Requirements

Invited Speaker: Mr. Antwan Campbell, NC DPI State-wide Consultant for Interpreters/Transliterator

Mr. Campbell is confident that the NC State Educational Board will unanimously pass this new interpreter policy which should become effective on July 1, 2021.
For newly hired educational interpreters, an entry level requirement of a 3.3 on the EIPA is required and they have 3 years to attain a 3.5. Any currently employed educational interpreters that have below a 3.3 will have three years to obtain a 3.3 and another 3 years to obtain a 3.5. DPI, in conjunction with DSDHH is employing a coaching program to support these educational interpreters to obtain the 3.5, the new minimum standard.

The State Board of Education, along with the support of NC DPI, should approve a third classification for educational interpreters which requires a 4.0 or higher on the EIPA.

All newly hired interpreters must have:
- Minimum EIPA score of **3.3** before hiring and **3.5** EIPA score by the third year of employment
- AA degree in Interpreting or a related field

All interpreters, between **3.0** - **3.2** EIPA score, who are already employed / contracted in the system:
- have three years to reach a **3.3**
- and an additional three years to achieve a **3.5**, the new minimum standard requirement

Educational Interpreter I must have a minimum Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) score of a 3.3 for educational interpreters or a TECUnit score of a level 2 for cued language transliterators. In addition, in order to maintain employment, the educational interpreter/transliterator must meet the requirements for Educational Interpreter II within three years of employment. Educational Interpreter I is an entry-level classification. The suggested pay grade for this classification is Salary Grade 64.

Educational Interpreter II must have an EIPA score of a 3.5 for educational interpreters or a TECUnit score of a level 3 for cued language transliterators and a minimum of three years of experience in the educational setting. The suggested pay grade for this classification is Salary Grade 66. An EIPA score of 3.5 is the new minimum standard requirement.

Educational Interpreter III is a new classification. The educational interpreter must have an EIPA score of a 4.0, a cued language transliterator must have a TECUnit score of a level 3, or either may hold a national certification. Five years of experience in the educational setting is also required. The suggested pay grade for this classification is Salary Grade 68.

All the above-listed classifications must now complete 20 hours of professional learning related to interpreting/transliterating annually and hold at least an AA degree in interpreting or a related field. In addition, educational interpreters currently employed or contracted within NC Public Schools and have an EIPA score between 3.0 and 3.2, will have three years to reach a 3.3 and an additional three years to achieve a 3.5, the new minimum standard requirement.
State Requirements for Educational Interpreters

While we aspire towards greater standardization of expectations for interpreters in educational settings, great variability still exists between states. With some progress being made towards that endeavor over the past two decades, NAE’s State Map Project was established in 2020, following up on the University of Northern Colorado’s 2006 compilation.

This infographic provides a condensed overview of the type(s) of credentials available for each state along with their requirements for the EPA Written Test, EPA minimum performance scores, minimum educational degree, and continuing education requirements.

Minimum EPA Score for Permanent Credential

Number of states that accept a testing credential from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID): 41
Number of states that accept a testing credential from the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI): 6
Number of states that accept a testing credential from their own state exam: 10

States with Provisional Credential


All other states in grey do not require provisional credentials.

Percentage of states requiring a skills assessment to obtain provisional credential: 50%


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For more information, visit naiedu.org.
Secretary Marshall shares her concerns that NC DPI has no tracking system of all educational interpreters working in 100 counties. Auditors are needed.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:12 PM