



Academic Communication Equity – BC

Post-Secondary Sign Language Interpreting Screen

Information and Preparation

Prepared for Academic Communication Equity – British Columbia

INSIDE FRONT COVER

INTRODUCTION

This Information Booklet is designed to provide information and support for interpreters, who are planning to take the British Columbia Post-Secondary Interpreting Screen. It provides you with a description of the application and screening process, as well as a sample interpreting feedback form. The feedback form can be used in conjunction with a self-study plan.

HOW TO SIGN UP

There are two parts to the application process:

1. You are required to complete a written test regarding best practices for interpreting in the post-secondary setting.
 - Simply email office@ace-bc.ca and request a copy of the Post-Secondary Education Interpreting Screen's Written Test, which will be emailed to you.
 - Please complete this open book test and email it back to office@ace-bc.ca. The answers to this qualifying test can be found in two places:
 - "BC Interpreting Guidelines" document http://www.bcit.ca/files/ACE-BC/pdf/asl_oral_guidelines.pdf
 - OR
 - Within this Information Booklet

Please feel free to print copies of these documents for your reference.

2. You will receive your test results via email from ACE-BC. Once you receive this email, print a copy and attach it to your completed Application Form, which you can find at the following address: http://www.bcit.ca/files/ACE-BC/pdf/psir_screen_application.pdf

Your application must also include:

- Graduated from an interpreting training program
- Proof of CASLI/WAVLI membership
- Your application may also include:
 - Completion of the Written Test of Knowledge (WTK). The previous mandatory requirement is on hold; currently preferred. With your permission, CASLI will email ACE-BC with confirmation that you have passed the WTK. Contact CASLI via fax: (780) 988-2660 or Phone: (780) 430-9442 or E-Mail: ces@CASLI.ca

Send your completed application and payment to:

BCIT, Academic Communication Equity BC (ACE-BC)
SW1 Office 2360, 3700 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, BC V5G 3H2

After ACE-BC has received your application, you will be given the choice of either taking the Screen immediately, or waiting for one of the semi-annual offerings usually in May or October.

If you choose to take the test immediately, please be advised that there may be a waiting period to obtain your results as four (4) or more practical exams need to be completed to bring the rating team together.

PAYMENT OF THE TESTING FEE

The total cost to take the Screen, is \$184, payable to:

Academic Communication Equity BC (ACE-BC)
ATTN: ACE-BC Screen
3700 Willingdon Avenue, Building SW01 Office 2360
Burnaby, BC, Canada V5G 3H2

We will accept your application fee by cash, personal or certified cheque, payable to ACE-BC.

If the testing session is cancelled due to low interest, all forms and deposit fees will be returned in full.

If you cancel your registration three (3) weeks or more prior to the exam, fees will be returned in full.

Registrations cancelled less than three (3) weeks before the exam, are subject to a \$50.00 application fee to cover administrative costs.

TESTING AVAILABILITY OUTSIDE OF THE LOWER-MAINLAND

If there is a demand, the testing will be arranged in your community.

Your application deadline is 5 weeks prior to the scheduled exam. Please note that at the time of your application you will need to indicate which version you are taking (refer to pages 5-6).

Testing outside the Lower Mainland must be completed and returned to ACE-BC at least one week before the regularly scheduled exams to be rated concurrently with the tapes from the Lower Mainland.

Please contact ACE-BC at office@ace-bc.ca for more information related to taking the Screen outside the Lower Mainland.

NO OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT?

We will accept photocopies.

CONFIRMATION OF WAVLI/CASLI MEMBERSHIP

A photocopy of your active membership card will be accepted as proof of membership.

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT

You can change the date of a scheduled exam, if you are taking the test outside of the semi-annual offerings.

If you are registered for the semi-annual offerings usually in May or October, but unable to make your appointment, we will do our best to reschedule your exam.

Please note that your exam must be completed prior to the semi-annual test dates to ensure it is marked in a timely manner.

Please contact office@ace-bc.ca to make any changes to the date of your exam.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS AND CONTENT

The Screen process will take approximately two hours, which includes time at the beginning to tend to administrative details, and to view the welcome DVD.

Before the test begins, you will be given the related handouts and time to familiarize yourself with the presenters and their material.

You will be working with a total of four scenarios, in whichever order you prefer. Each scenario is preceded by introductions of the consumers with whom you will be working, allowing you to become familiar with their signing or speaking style, thus enabling you to match language preferences.

Each scenario requires you to perform a different task:

- interpret a classroom lecture into ASL
- interpret a classroom lecture into contact sign (English-like signing)
- interpret an interaction between a Deaf student and their hearing classmate, preparing for their class presentation.
- interpret the Deaf student's portion of the class presentation

For the interactive scenario only, you are given the choice to work in consecutive or simultaneous mode, allowing you to pause, but not rewind, the recording.

There are two versions of the Screen. Please indicate on your application which version you wish to take. If you have taken one version previously and were not successful, the alternate version will be given to you. If you have taken both unsuccessfully, either may be tried again.

THE TOPICS IN VERSION A

1. Four Models for Equity in Education – English to Contact Sign

This lecture is intended for students who are studying Early Childhood Education. A brief summary of the lecture is as follows:

Depending on how we see the world, we will have different ideas about how to treat children equitably in the school system. Should we treat them differently based on their abilities or disabilities? Does equity imply treating everyone the same? In this lecture we will address four different ways to answer these and related questions.

2. Web Development Methodology – English to ASL

This lecture is intended for students who are studying a Web design program at an introductory level. A brief overview of the lecture is as follows:

You will learn about why it is important to follow a methodology and why you need to have a standard for yourself, your team and your clients to understand. There are various phases to consider when approaching web development. A critical phase is the definition phase. Issues that will be addressed in this lecture include why predictability, tracking ability and teamwork are some of the most important reasons for having a web development methodology.

3. S.M.A.R.T. Stress Management – Student Interaction and a Deaf Student’s Class Presentation (English/ASL)

This is a class project, involving two students, one of whom is deaf. They are preparing their class presentation on stress management, as part of their course work, for a Communication Studies program at Simon Fraser University. A brief overview of their presentation is as follows:

In today’s world, we can be overwhelmed with the pressures of our very hectic lifestyles, which can sometimes prevent us from leading healthy and balanced lives. Our presentation is about a strategy called the SMART system and how this is an effective tool for managing stress or for setting goals that will help our lives become more manageable and stress-free.

THE TOPICS IN VERSION B

1. Delivering Engaging Presentations – English to ASL

When delivering presentations, it is important to ensure that they are engaging as well as offering valuable information and content.

In this session, you will look at the entire process of planning and designing your presentation. You will learn about the important elements that must be included in preparing an effective presentation, and the various techniques that will enable you to do this.

2. “Standards for Web Development” – English to Contact Sign

Standards for web development are important in today’s world, similar to the standards that have been created for products and businesses in the real world. Building the Internet and the Web, started around the mid 1990’s, when developers decided there needed to be standards in place for building websites.

This lecture is an overview of the emergence of standards for the web, including the significance of such bodies such as the W3C, the World Wide Web Consortium for web design and development. From the early beginnings in the 1990s, to making the web accessible to users on all continents; the only way to be able to achieve universal access is to support the idea of Web standards.

3. “Conservation of Marine Mammals” – Student Interaction and a Deaf Student’s Class Presentation (English/ASL)

This is a class project, involving two students, one of whom is Deaf. They are preparing for their class presentation on Conservation of Marine Mammals.

Their presentation will take a look at various programs that focus on the conservation and rehabilitation of marine mammals, primarily the Vancouver Aquarium as well as national and international organizations.

The presentation will describe how the Vancouver aquarium plays an active role in this conservation mandate, including their showcases, educational programs, as well as conducting research in partnership with other institutions.

INTERPRETING SCREEN ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The Screen test tapes are reviewed by a team of deaf and hearing raters, using a criterion referenced format to look at the ASL, contact sign and message equivalency of the interpretations.

The rating team will evaluate the work in a holistic and success – oriented manner, which looks at how well the interpreter understood the source message, and then constructed and represented that information in the target message. The raters are not looking for perfect interpretation. They are assessing the test samples to determine if the candidate can demonstrate that they have the skills that are necessary for working in this environment.

Prior to the scheduled screening dates, ACE-BC provides a pre-screen workshop, which is designed to offer candidates feedback on their work, using scenarios that are similar to what can be expected on the Screen. The workshop will give candidates the opportunity to practice with the materials, receive feedback and review the screen process and rating criteria.

Included in this preparation book is a “Feedback on Interpretation” form, which can be used to measure your progress and skill development. When used by individuals doing self-analysis or providing feedback for another interpreter, the chart can be an invaluable tool for tracking development and identifying weakness and strengths.

PRACTICE/PREPARATION MATERIALS

Two practice DVD's have been produced and are available for you to borrow to help you prepare specifically for this assessment.

One DVD demonstrates an interpreter (Karen Malcolm) translating spoken class lecture material into ASL and contact or English-like sign.

A second DVD demonstrates another interpreter (Deloris "Piper" Piper) rendering a different text into the two modes.

Copies of these DVD recordings are available from ACE-BC:

Tel: (604) 451-6933

Email: office@ace-bc.ca

SAMPLE FORM FOR SELF STUDY PREPARATION FEEDBACK ON INTERPRETATION

Interpreter						
Short-term Goals						
Date						
1.						
2.						
3.						
SPEAKER/ SIGNER GOAL	Absent/ Nonfunctional	Consistent Errors; Little Control	Frequent & Patterned Errors	Occasional Errors	Few Errors; No Problem Patterns	Consistently Accurate
Goals clear						
Goals shift as needed						
Dynamics maintained						
ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF MEANING	Absent/ Nonfunctional	Consistent Errors; Little Control	Frequent & Patterned Errors	Occasional Errors	Few Errors; No Problem Patterns	Consistently Accurate
Got main point						
Adequate supporting detail						
Information accurate						
Depth of processing (expansion/reduction)						
Add/dele don't skew meaning						

ENGLISH	Absent/ Nonfunctional	Consistent Errors; Little Control	Frequent & Patterned Errors	Occasional Errors	Few Errors; No Problem Patterns	Consistently Accurate
Vocabulary Adequate variety						
Production Volume Enunciation						
Semantically correct						
Grammatical Verb tense agreement Complete sentences						
Fillers, hesitations, etc.						



ASL	Absent/ Nonfunctional	Consistent Errors; Little Control	Frequent & Patterned Errors	Occasional Errors	Few Errors; No Problem Patterns	Consistently Accurate
Vocabulary Adequate variety Semantically correct						
Production Size/space Clarity Affect						
Grammatical Structure Topic marking/transition						
Use of space 3-D set up Locatives Directional verbs						
Classifiers Adequate variety Proper selection						
Fillers, hesitations, etc.						
CONTACT SIGN	Absent/ Nonfunctional	Consistent Errors; Little Control	Frequent & Patterned Errors	Occasional Errors	Few Errors; No Problem Patterns	Consistently Accurate
Vocabulary Adequate variety Semantically correct						
Production Size/space Clarity Affect						
Grammatical Structure Topic marking/ transition						
Use of space 3-D set up Locatives Directional verbs						
Classifiers Adequate variety Proper selection						
Fillers, hesitations, etc.						

IN SUMMARY

- Submit your completed application, documents and results of your written test, along with the test fee of \$184.00 to ACE-BC, four weeks prior to the scheduled exam.
- Application fees need to be made by cheque or money order. Do not send cash by mail.
- Ensure that you determine whether you wish to do Version A or Version B. If you were previously unsuccessful in this Screen, you will be given the version you have not yet done.
- Your appointment time includes time to complete the administrative details, to warm up and to get set up with the space and the handout materials.

Note: There is no need to bring videotapes or DVDs

- The results of the Post-Secondary Interpreting Screen will be mailed within twenty-one (21) working days of the assessment. Tests taken between scheduled exams will be rated at the same time as tapes from the scheduled exams

