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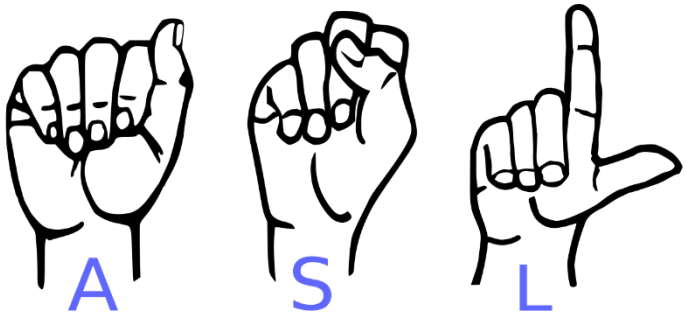
ASL LEARNING RESOURCES IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS



COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN ORANGE COUNTY

The following colleges and universities offer American Sign Language (ASL) courses, Deaf culture education, and/or ASL-related academic programs:

Irvine Valley College (IVC)

5500 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine, CA 92618

(949) 451-5100
www.ivc.edu/dept/llr/asl

Program:

- American Sign Language courses
- Beginning ASL (ASL 21 and ASL 22)
- Intermediate ASL (ASL 23 and ASL 24)
- Deaf Culture course
- ASL Associate Degree/Certificate pathway

Notes:

- Courses focus on ASL language skills, Deaf culture, and communication with the Deaf community.
- Offers opportunities for students interested in interpreting, Deaf education, social work, and related fields.

Fullerton College

321 E. Chapman Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832
(714) 992-7000
www.fullcoll.edu

Program:

- American Sign Language courses
- ASL degree pathway
- Deaf culture education
- ASL Club and opportunities for community engagement

Notes:

- Program emphasizes ASL language skills, Deaf history, culture, and community awareness.

Saddleback College

28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA 92692
(949) 582-4500
www.saddleback.edu

Program:

- American Sign Language courses
- Deaf studies and ASL-related coursework

Notes:

- ASL courses are available through the college academic schedule.

University of California, Irvine (UCI)

Irvine, CA
www.uci.edu

Program:

- American Sign Language courses through academic coursework

Courses:

- ASL 1A – Fundamentals of American Sign Language
- ASL 1B – Intermediate American Sign Language
- ASL 1C – Advanced American Sign Language

Notes:

- Courses include ASL language development and Deaf culture education.

ASL SELF-LEARNING OPTIONS

The following resources allow individuals to learn ASL independently through online lessons, videos, and practice tools.

Lifeprint / ASL University

www.lifeprint.com

Features:

- Free ASL lessons
- Vocabulary practice
- Sentence structure lessons
- Deaf culture information
- Beginner through advanced learning materials

Handspeak

www.handspeak.com

Features:

- ASL dictionary
- ASL lessons
- Grammar explanations
- Fingerspelling resources
- Deaf culture information

ASL Connect – Gallaudet University

www.gallaudet.edu/asl-connect

Features:
- Online ASL courses
- ASL learning opportunities from a Deaf-centered institution
- Self-paced and instructor-led options

The ASL App

Features:
- ASL vocabulary learning
- Video-based instruction
- Lessons taught by Deaf instructors

Available:
- Mobile application platforms

ASL CLASSES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The following programs offer ASL classes that are open to community members and are not limited to college students.

Queer ASL

www.queerasl.com

Features:
- Online ASL classes
- LGBTQIA+ and transgender-inclusive ASL learning environment
- Classes for different ASL skill levels
- Community-centered learning approach

Notes:
- Welcomes queer, trans, and allied learners interested in learning ASL in an inclusive environment.

Free ASL Class Orange County

Fullerton, CA
(714) 914-9080

Services:

- Community ASL classes
- Beginner ASL instruction
- Public learning opportunities

Orange Coast College Community Education

Costa Mesa, CA
(714) 432-5880
www.orangecoastcollege.edu/communityeducation

Services:

- Community education courses
- Continuing education opportunities
- Public classes (availability varies by term)

RESOURCE NOTE

ASL is a visual language connected to Deaf culture and community. Individuals learning ASL are encouraged to practice with Deaf and hard-of-hearing community members, attend Deaf community events, and learn about Deaf culture in addition to developing language skills.

Course availability, registration dates, and class formats may change. Consumers should contact each program directly for current schedules and enrollment information.

ASL INTERPRETER AGENCIES

The following list of American Sign Language interpreter agencies offers dedicated ASL interpreting services and may have a rigorous screening process to provide more qualified and reliable interpreters.

Life Signs

https://lifesignsinc.org/
(888) 930-7776 x1
For after-hours emergency interpreting requests, please call LifeSigns at (800) 633-8883
lifesigns@lifesignsinc.org

Linguabee

https://www.linguabee.com/
855-585-5859

LiNKS by Goodwill of OC

https://www.linksinterpreting.com/pages/language-requests.html
(888) 742-0070

RISE Interpreting

https://riseinterpreting.com/request-an-interpreter-form/
(951) 565-4422

Purple Communications

https://signlanguage.com/onsite-interpreting/
(866) 669-7707

Additional ASL Service Resources

https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/13/SignLanguageInterpreterSvcInfo.pdf?ver=2019-07-08-144154-363

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDANCE FOR REQUESTING AN ASL INTERPRETER FOR MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Goal: Requesting an **In-Person ASL** Interpreter
To receive a live ASL interpreter who can attend your medical appointment in person, please follow these steps:

1) **Gather** the following information:
    a. Member ID, Medical Record Number (MRN), CIN, or Medi-Cal ID number
    b. Date of birth (DOB)
2) **Schedule** your doctor's appointment at least 1–2 weeks in advance whenever possible.
3) **Collect** the following appointment information:
    a. Doctor's office address
    b. Doctor's office phone number
    c. Date and time of your appointment
4) **Call** your health insurance provider.
    a. Request an in-person ASL interpreter and provide all of the appointment information you have gathered.
5) **Call** your health insurance provider **again** 2–3 days later to follow up on your request.
    a. If an interpreter has been assigned, ask for the interpreter's name. Receiving the interpreter's name generally means that an ASL interpreter has been confirmed for your appointment.

Goal: Requesting an ASL Interpreter Through **Video Remote Interpreting (VRI)**
If you prefer to use **VRI** instead of an in-person interpreter, follow these steps:
1) Schedule your doctor's appointment.
2) Gather all of the appointment information needed to request an interpreter.
3) Contact the doctor's office, customer service or reception desk before your appointment. Inform them that you would like to use Video Remote Interpreting (VRI)

and provide your appointment information so they can make the necessary arrangements.

Note: Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) can also be used for urgent or immediate communication needs as a temporary solution while waiting for the scheduled in-person ASL interpreter to arrive.

Health Insurance Contact Information for Requesting an ASL Interpreter

Anthem

Customer Care Center:

- Outside Los Angeles County: **800-407-4627**
- Inside Los Angeles County: **888-285-7801**

https://providers.anthem.com/docs/gpp/california-provider/CA_CAID_InterpreterServicesDesktopReference.pdf?v=202404151659

CalOptima

888-587-8088
https://www.caloptima.org/en/health-insurance-plans/medi-cal/benefits-and-services/other-caloptima-health-medi-cal-programs

Additional information for CalOptima members:
https://cop-p-001.sitecorecontenthub.cloud/api/public/content/b2712e51738b4524a0628723adaa1729?v=3a36776b

Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan

(800) 605-2556
https://www.blueshieldca.com/en/bsp/medi-cal-members/plan-documents/language-help-interpreter-services

HealthNet

http://healthnet.com/content/healthnet/en_us/members/support/language-assistance.html
Health Net offers several contact numbers. Please visit the website to find the number that best matches your health plan.

Humana

1-800-787-3311
https://provider.humana.com/working-with-us/language-assistance-program

Kaiser Permanente (Southern California)

1-800-464-4000
https://healthy.kaiserpermanente.org/southern-california/get-care/interpreter-services

L.A. Care Health Plan

1-888-839-9909
https://www.lacare.org/members/interpretation-translation

Wellcare California

866-999-3945
file:///C:/Users/ptorres/Downloads/CA_Care_Prov_Interpreter_Services_Bulletin_24_1160_2024_R.pdf

***Please note**: The link originally provided appears to be a local file and cannot be accessed online. Visit the Wellcare California website or search online for the latest interpreter services information.*

If a Link Is No Longer Working
If any of the links above are no longer available, search online using keywords such as:
"ASL interpreter [health insurance company name] phone number"
You can also try similar search terms until you find the most current contact information for requesting an ASL interpreter.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SERVICES WITH ASL ACCESS

The following California organizations provide domestic violence and/or sexual violence services with verified ASL access or established communication accommodation procedures for Deaf, DeafBlind, and hard-of-hearing survivors. Consumers are encouraged to request ASL interpreting services or other communication accommodations when contacting these organizations.

Peace Over Violence (POV)

Service Area:
Los Angeles County and surrounding communities
1543 Pontius Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025
(213) 955-9090

Services:

- Domestic violence advocacy for Deaf survivors
- Safety planning
- Survivor support
- Referrals to Deaf-accessible services
- Community education
- Sexual assault crisis intervention
- Counseling services
- Safety planning
- Support groups

ASL Access:

- Provides culturally and linguistically accessible services for Deaf survivors using ASL.

Sexual Assault Crisis Hotline:
(213) 626-3393
www.peaceoverviolence.org

DeafHope / Deaf Survivors Advocacy Services

Service Area:
California (with local services in the San Francisco Bay Area and virtual support available)

470 27th Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Video Phone:
(510) 735-8553
Voice: (510) 267-8800
deafhope@deaf-hope.org
www.deaf-hope.org

Services:

- Domestic violence advocacy
- Sexual violence advocacy
- Peer counseling
- Support groups
- Safety planning
- Systems advocacy
- Referrals to legal services and shelters
- Support for Deaf survivors and their children

ASL Access:

- Deaf-led organization providing culturally and linguistically accessible services in ASL.

DeafSAFE – NorCal Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Service Area:
Northern California

Video Phone:
(916) 993-3393
Voice
(916) 349-7500
www.norcalcenter.org/deafsafe

Services:

- Domestic violence advocacy
- Dating violence support
- Sexual violence support
- Stalking support
- Safety planning
- Assistance with restraining orders
- Support during court and medical appointments

ASL Access:

- Deaf and hard-of-hearing survivor program with Video Phone access and Deaf-accessible advocacy services.

California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

Service Area:
Statewide California

(916) 444-7163
www.cpedv.org

Services:

- Domestic violence resource referrals
- Survivor advocacy resources
- Training and education
- Connection to local domestic violence programs throughout California

ASL Access:

- Communication accommodations are available upon request.

California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA)

Service Area:
Statewide California

(916) 446-2520
www.calcasa.org

Services:

- Sexual assault survivor resources
- Referrals to local rape crisis centers
- Advocacy and training
- Public education

ASL Access:

- Communication accommodations may be requested when accessing services.

RESOURCE NOTE

ASL Access Requests: Deaf survivors should have access to effective communication when seeking crisis services, advocacy, and support. Consumers are encouraged to request ASL interpreting services, Video Remote Interpreting (VRI), Video Phone access, or other appropriate communication accommodations when contacting domestic violence or sexual violence service providers.

DEAF FAMILY COACHING AND PARENT SUPPORT RESOURCES

The following organizations provide family coaching, parent education, Deaf mentor support, and resources for families raising Deaf or hard-of-hearing children. Services may include ASL development support, Deaf culture education, language milestone guidance, advocacy, and connections to Deaf community resources.

LEAD-K Family Services (California)

Service Area:
Statewide California

www.leadkfamilyservices.org
(916) 367-0511

Services:

- Family Deaf Coaches
- Parent Mentors
- Support for families with Deaf and hard-of-hearing children ages birth to 5
- Early language development support

- ASL and spoken language resources
- Guidance on language milestones
- Connection to Early Start programs and local resources
- Family education and advocacy support

Family Coaching:

- Deaf coaches and parent mentors support families in developing communication strategies, learning about Deaf culture, and supporting their child's language development.

Notes:

- LEAD-K Family Services serves families throughout California and connects families with local resources, school districts, Early Start services, Deaf coaches, and parent mentors.

Orange County Deaf Equal Access Foundation (OC DEAF)

Service Area:
Orange County, CA
www.ocdeaf.org

Services:

- Family advocacy for parents of Deaf and hard-of-hearing children and youth
- Deaf community connection
- Communication access support
- Advocacy related to education, services, and accommodations
- Resources and support for Deaf, hard-of-hearing, and DeafBlind individuals and families

Family Support:

- Provides individual, group, and family advocacy services, including support for families of Deaf children and youth.

Notes:

- OC DEAF is a local Deaf-led organization that can help families connect with Deaf community resources and navigate communication access needs.

NorCal Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing – Deaf Coach Program

Service Area:
California (primarily Northern California service region)

www.norcalcenter.org
Video Phone: (916) 993-3048
Voice: (916) 349-7500

Services:

- Deaf coaching for families with Deaf and hard-of-hearing children
- ASL communication support
- Family education about Deaf culture
- Communication strategies for home environments
- Support with IFSP and IEP language goals

Deaf Coach Services:

- Deaf coaches work with families to model sign language, provide communication strategies, and introduce families to Deaf community experiences.

Notes:

- Deaf coaching services are typically provided through partnerships with school districts and early intervention programs.

California School for the Deaf, Riverside (CSDR) – Family Support Resources

Service Area:
Southern California

3044 Horace Street, Riverside, CA 92506
(951) 248-7700
www.csdr-cde.ca.gov

Services:

- Deaf education resources
- Family engagement opportunities
- Parent/community events
- Connections to Deaf culture and ASL resources

Notes:

- Families may access Deaf community connections, educational resources, and support opportunities through the school community.

RESOURCE NOTE
Families of Deaf and hard-of-hearing children are encouraged to connect with Deaf adults, Deaf mentors, family coaches, and Deaf community resources when developing communication plans for their child. Early access to language, including ASL, and meaningful communication opportunities can support a child's social, emotional, and educational development.

For assistance requesting Deaf-accessible resources, consumers may contact Deaf Services at Dayle McIntosh Center at (657) 208-4796. If unavailable, consumers may call the main office at (714) 621-3300.

DAYLE MCINTOSH CENTER