

**John Bel Edwards**

GOVERNOR

**Lynne Gomez**

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY

**State of Louisiana**

LOUISIANA COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF

Interpreter Ad Hoc Committee

**Wednesday September 6, 2023**

3:30PM – 6:30PM

Hybrid (In-person and ZOOM)

**Meeting Minutes**

1. **Call to order** 
   1. Meeting called to order by Committee Chair Lynne Gomez at 3:30PM
2. **Roll Call** 
   1. Denise Crochet (Present)
   2. Earl Harden (Present)
   3. Natasha Aymami ( Arrived at 5:09PM, absent at roll call)
   4. Milissa Welch (Present)
   5. Lynne Gomez (Present)
   6. Walker Estes (Absent)
   7. Leslie Knowles (Present)
3. **Approval of August 23, 2023 Minutes** 
   1. Motion: Denise Crochet / Milissa Welch to approve the updated minutes received on 9/6/2023

Passed unanimously

1. **Approval of September 6, 2023 Agenda**
   1. Motion: Denise Crochet /Earl Harden moves to approve the agenda. Passed unanimously
2. **Public Comments**
   1. No public comments
3. **Old Business** 
   1. **Educational Interpreter Administrative Code** Motion: Earl Harden/ Leslie Knowles to move into Committee as a whole. Passed unanimously.
      1. Section 3 Minimum Qualified Interpreter - standards qualification requirements and registration
         1. Motion: Earl Harden/ Denise Crochet to come out of committee as a whole. Passed unanimously.
         2. Motion: Denise Crochet/ Leslie Knowles add three items (1. Splitting into three sections, 2. Editing to say National Certifying body of Interpreters, 3. Added NAD certification level 4 or 5) to Section 3 & 4. Passed unanimously.

***Section 3 Minimum Qualified Interpreter - standards qualification requirements and registration***

***Section A: Educational Requirements***

*Each applicant for approval as an educational sign language interpreter shall meet one of the following criteria:*

1. *hold a minimum of an associate's degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or*
2. *Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education.*

***Section B: Performance Requirements each applicant for approval as a sign language interpreter also shall have:***

1. *attained a rating of Level 4.0 or above on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) or,*
2. *maintained a valid certification from the National Certifying body of Interpreters; or*
3. *Maintained a valid Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Advanced Certification or higher issued by a state that is a licensed user of the BEI system; or*
4. *Maintained a valid National Association of the Deaf (NAD) certification level 4 or 5.*

***Section C: Knowledge/Written Exam Requirements***

1. *Regardless of Section B certifications/rating of Level 4.0 or above all Interpreters holding this certificate must pass the EIPA Written Test Knowledge Exam.*
   * 1. Section 4 Provisional Educational Interpreter Standards
        1. Motion: Leslie Knowles / Milissa Welch to accept section 4 as follows and to present to LCD. Passed unanimously.

***Section 4 Provisional Educational Interpreter Standards***

*One time provisional certificate 3 years duration.  (See Section 12 Professional Development)*

*The Commission shall issue a one-time approved provisional registration, valid up to three years in duration, to an applicant who submits proof one of the following: .*

***Section A: Educational requirements***

1. *Complete an Interpreter Educational Program (IEP) with a minimum of a certificate of completion/degree issued by a regionally accredited institution of higher education; or*
2. *Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours of college credit from one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education.*

***Section B: Performance Requirements each applicant for approval as a sign language interpreter also shall have one of the following:***

*1. Maintained a valid certification from the National Certifying body of Interpreters or*

*2. Maintained a valid Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI) Basic Certification or higher issued by a state that is a licensed user of the BEI system plus passed the; or*

*3. Maintained a valid National Association of the Deaf (NAD) certification level 4 or 5; and*

*4. Pass the Pre-Hire screening of the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA).*

* + 1. Section 5 Qualified/Preferred Educational Interpreter Standards
       1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
    2. Section 6 Accepted Certificates
       1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
    3. Section 7 Renewal Guidelines
       1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting

1. **New Business** 
   1. **Educational Interpreter Administrative Code** 
      1. Section 10 Proficiency levels
         1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
      2. Section 11 Supervision
         1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
      3. Section 12 Supervision of Performance
         1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
      4. Section 13 Grievance policy/Compliance
         1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
      5. Section 14 Repeal Denial Suspending or revocation of registration
         1. This section was not addressed. Deferred to the next meeting
2. **Announcements** 
   1. No Announcements
3. **Adjourn**
   1. Motion: Leslie Knowles/ Earl Harden to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously.
   2. Chair Lynne Gomez Adjourned at 6:26pm

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed as listed in order to accommodate presenter schedules.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters and live/remote captioning will be provided. Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for additional accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to **jazmyne.lemar@la.gov** at least **one week** prior to the meeting with details of the requested accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to **jazmyne.lemar@la.gov** and must be received at least **24 hours** prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.