Providing Interpreting Services During COVID-19

Interpreters are essential workers who risk exposure to COVID-19. They help ensure equal access to vital community services such as healthcare, justice, and education.

Provide interpreters with a safe working environment.

- Provide a separate location where interpreters can safely work by video or telephone.
- Properly sanitize that location, the furnishings and equipment after each use.
- Ensure the location is properly ventilated and provide space for social distancing.
- Assess and disclose COVID-19 exposure risk to interpreter in advance.
- Provide personal protective equipment per CDC and OSHA guidelines.
- Use a visitor log for contact tracing.

Follow all safety and health ordinances in effect at the location.

- Record visitor’s name, date/time, phone and email for contact tracing.
- The interpreter may decide to withdraw if safety measures are not in place.

Other Covid-19 resources:
Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) COVID-19 Communication Guidelines
National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Recommendations for In-Person Court Interpretation

These guidelines were developed by the following organizations:

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