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.

Onsite but remote

- 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.

Face to Face

- 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.

- 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.

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:

ENDORSED BY:

DISCLAIMER: This Guide and its conclusions and recommendations reflect the best available information at the time the Guide was prepared. The results of future studies may require revisions to the recommendations in this Guide to reflect new data. The above organizations do not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the Guide and assume no responsibility for any injury or damage to persons or property arising out of or related to any use of this Guide or for any errors or omissions.

For questions about this guide, or to obtain an endorsed version, contact the ALC at alcus.org

Version 2, August 2020