

Need as Suggested by Market Demand

As more hearing and Deaf people learn sign language, the range of careers open to that skill has broadened. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says a career as an interpreter is growing much faster than average, with 19% growth predicted through 2028. The bureau notes that ASL interpreters are especially sought-after. Employment of interpreters and translators is projected to grow 24 percent from 2020 to 2030, much faster than the average for all occupations. According to the website "Discover Interpreting":

"Because the demand for skilled interpreters far exceeds the number of qualified professionals, nationally certified interpreters can find work all over the United States. Credentialed interpreters are constantly in demand in educational settings from pre-school through graduate school. These interpreters are part-time or full-time employees of their school district or university and are often employed with benefits. Qualified interpreters are also in demand in medical, legal, mental health, theatrical, governmental, and religious settings, among others. Interpreters may be on staff in these settings, they may work through an interpreter referral agency, or they may be privately contracted."

In a recent survey of the past five graduating classes, 100% of ITP graduates were working as interpreters and 76% reported finding work within three months of graduation. In general, the interpreting and translation field is growing much faster than other occupations, and ASL interpreters are especially sought-after.

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