

Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS)
Health Facility Licensing, Permits and Support Division (HFLPSD)

Qualified Interpreter (QI) Program



**Qualified Interpreters
(Apply & Renew)**

Note: This information was provided at the Board meeting and may not reflect current information.

Qualified Interpreter Program

BCHS QI Program

- Proctor the TEP and BEI Exams
- Certify Individuals
- Process and renew applications for Sign Language Interpreters

Michigan Accepted Certification Credentials

- RID-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and Educational—EIPA
- State credential--Michigan BEI Interpreters—Levels 1,2, and 3

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Highlights & Happenings

- For those who did not attend the last Board meeting, there were two new Board members appointed in 2022:
 - Miriam Andrade Cuevas
 - Diana McKittrick
 - Board vacancy – Those interested may apply through the Governor’s Appointments Office.
 - LARA has reached out to the Appointments Office regarding the vacancy and renewing any term expirations.
- QI Program transitioned to BCHS from BPL in 2021.
- Exam scheduling is up to date. Individuals can schedule with an approved application.
- Changed renewal process to allow expired individuals to remain on the registry.
- The slides that follow will provide information on a few topics of discussion at the October 26, 2022 Board meeting.

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Michigan College Programs for Sign Language Interpreters

- Lansing Community College: Certificate or Associates
- Oakland Community College: Associates
- Mott Community College: Associates
- Madonna University: Bachelors

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Complaint Form Access

Community and Health Systems



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About the Bureau of Community and Health Systems

The Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS) performs state licensing and federal certification regulatory duties as required by state and federal laws. The bureau programs are designed to protect the health, safety and welfare of individuals receiving care and services through various covered licensed/certified provider types.

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STATEMENT OF COMPLAINT
DEAF, DEAFBLIND AND HARD OF HEARING QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS

Authority: 1982 PA 204 (MCL 393.501 et seq.) and R 393.5001 et seq.

The Bureau has jurisdiction over only certain matters involving qualified interpreters in the Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act. If there is jurisdiction over your complaint, an investigation will be conducted for possible action. A person may file a grievance with the Bureau against a qualified interpreter within 90 calendar days of an alleged violation of the act or rules. All complaints shall be filed in writing. As an accommodation, a D/DB/HH person may file a video request (enclosed on a flash/thumb drive if submitting by US mail or a video file attached to an email) so that it may be translated by the Bureau into writing.

Complaints related to denial of reasonable accommodations may be filed with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights under the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act, 1976 PA 220, MCL 37.1101 to 37.1607, or with the United States Department of Justice for violations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008. R393.5061. A person may file a grievance by contacting the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Division on Deaf, Deafblind and Hard of Hearing, either through VP at 313-437-7035 or email at DODDBHH@michigan.gov.

YOUR COMPLAINT IS AGAINST	INFORMATION ABOUT YOU
Name of Individual/ Qualified Interpreter	Name
Address (Number and Street)	Address (Number and Street)
City/State/Zip	City/State/Zip
Telephone number	Telephone number
E-mail Address	E-mail Address
Certification Number (If known)	Are you willing to testify in a hearing? Yes No

BCHS-QI-Statement of Complaint (05/21)

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, or political beliefs. If you need assistance with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you may make your needs known to this agency.

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Qualified Interpreters

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Michigan Qualified Interpreters Program

[MICHIGAN ONLINE INTERPRETER SYSTEM \(MOIS\)](#)

The certification of Qualified Interpreters for the Deaf has moved from the Bureau of Professional Licensing to the Bureau of Community and Health Systems. Please note the new contact information below.

[Qualified Interpreters General Rules DRAFT - ASL Video](#)

BCHS Contact Information:

Email-- LARA-BCHS-Qualified-Interpreter@michigan.gov

Phone-- 517-335-1980

Note: This information was provided at the Board meeting and may not reflect current information.

Substitute Educational Interpreter (EIPA 3.5 To 3.9) or a Regularly Assigned not meeting the standard

Overview of Unqualified Substitute Educational Interpreter

The application for a Substitute Educational Interpreter / Regularly Assigned Educational Interpreter Not Meeting the Standard is for individuals who have an:

- EIPA score of 3.5 to 3.9 in the last two years and documentation such as educational interpreter training.
- Required application and documentation which allows an individual to be an unqualified substitute educational interpreter in the absence of a regularly assigned educational interpreter.

If a school district has:

- Job vacancy and
- Has been unable to locate a qualified interpreter.

The school would submit a request for an exception to the 4.0 requirement by submitting the “School District Request for Exception to Educational Interpreter Standards Form” along with all the required documentation.

The approval allows an individual who was granted the underqualified substitute status, to interpret for the school year.

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Substitute Educational EIPA 3.5 to 3.9 Underqualified Stats

School Year 2020-2021

EIPA 3.5 to 3.9	School District Exceptions
29	11

School Year 2021-2022

EIPA 3.5 to 3.9	School District Exceptions
19	6

School Year 2022-2023 (as of 1/19/23)

EIPA 3.5 to 3.9	School District Exceptions
14	3

* Data appears to show a downward trend.

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Updated Testing Stats

Fiscal Year (FY 23) October 2022 - January 2023

TEP Test Results

Testers	Passed	Failed	% Passing Rates
19	10	11	52%

BEI Performance Test Results

Level	Testers	Pass	Fail	% Passing Rates
BEI 1 (Basic)	12	6	6	50%
BEI 2 (Advanced)	6	1	5	17%
BEI 3 (Master)	2	0	2	0%

Pending Results: BEI 1 (Basic) – 11; BEI 2 (Advanced) – 6

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BEI Testing Challenges Follow-Up

- We reached out to the Texas BEI Program regarding the question posed at the last board meeting about the most challenging areas on the BEI tests.
- The Texas BEI Program shared that interpreters have the most difficulty with voicing what the Deaf person is saying and indicated this is a challenge nation-wide.



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Fiscal Year (FY 22) 10/01/21 - 9/30/22 Accomplishments

Michigan Qualified Interpreter Program Information

FY 22 Completed Renewal	All Categories Renewal Totals*	RID	BEI	EIPA	DB	MMH	Legal
	Totals	754	533	171	50	102	336

- Estimate based on current records
- DB/MMH/Legal are endorsements and not part of total renewals

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2022 BCCHS QI Accomplishments, Continued

- Offered additional TEP and BEI exam days each month.
- Schedule for upcoming TEP exams posted on website.
- Scheduling of the performance part of the exam is based on the submittal of a complete application.
- After an application is approved, an applicant is contacted with available dates.
- Exam scheduling is up to date. Individuals can schedule with an approved application.
- Started scheduling BEI Performance exams and TEP test dates from January through April 2023.
- Created a preliminary workgroup to revise the rule drafting.

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Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act, Act 204 of 1982

MCL 393.501 - Title

MCL 393.502 – Definitions - "Appointing authority" means a court or a department, board, commission, agency, or licensing authority of this state or a political subdivision of this state or an entity that is required to provide a qualified interpreter in circumstances described under section 3a

MCL 393.503 - Requires courts, grand juries, and appointing authorities to offer qualified interpreter services

MCL 393.503a - Accommodation to have a qualified interpreter when required by state or federal law

MCL 393.504 – Requires appointing authorities to offer qualified interpreter services

MCL 393.505 – Requires law enforcement to offer qualified interpreter services

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Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act continued...

MCL 393.506 – Qualified interpreter to make true interpretations and abide by confidentiality and privileged requirements

MCL 393.507 – Qualified interpret services and payment

MCL 393.508 – Availability of qualified interpreter list

MCL 393.508a – Rule making authority for application, testing, revocation, suspension or limitation of certification, continuing education, renewals, and grievances, minimum credential requirements and levels, and minimum standards of practice

MCL 393.508b – Enforcement action (misdemeanor, fines, revocation, suspension, or limitation)

MCL 393.508c - National registry and state certification application, and \$30.00 application fee

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Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act continued...

MCL 393.508d - Grandfathering

MCL 393.508e - Initial certification fee \$30; annual renewal certification fee \$30.00; in-state examination fee \$125.00, outstate \$175.00

MCL 393.508f – Fee fund and use

MCL 393.509 – Effective date of act

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Executive Reorganization Order – ERO No. 2017-4 445.2036

I. TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES

II. CREATION OF THE BOARD

A. Places the Board within LARA

B. Board shall advise LARA on Public Act 204 of 1982

C. Board shall consist of the following 9 members appointed by the Governor

D. Two (2) members shall be deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing persons

E. Four (4) members shall be certified deaf persons' interpreters

F. One (1) member shall represent an institution or other organization responsible for education of interpreters or interpreter standards

G. One (1) member shall represent an educational institution or other organization that serves the deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing community

H. One (1) member shall represent the public

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Executive Reorganization Order continued...

- I. Annually elect a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and other officers
- J. Terms of appointment
- K. Vacancy and term limits
- L. Quorum, vote requirements, meet not less than 2 times a year
- M. Board may adopt procedures governing its organization and operations
- N. Board shall be staffed and assisted as necessary by LARA

III. IMPLEMENTATION

IV. MISCELLANEOUS



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Rating Service

Contract Terms

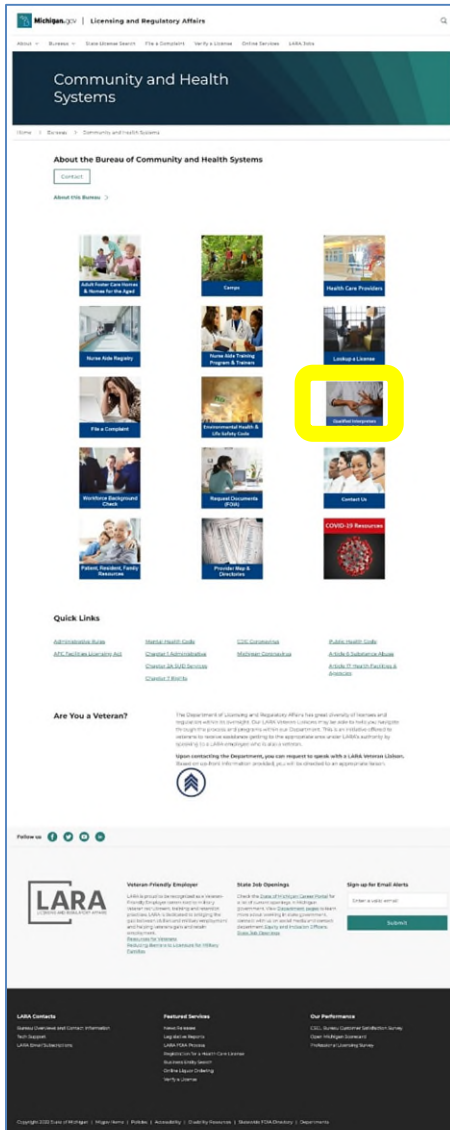
Rating Services

- \$40 per rater for each Basic candidate
- \$50 per rater for each Advanced or Master candidate
- \$52.50 per team leader services for each candidate
- \$25 per hour stipend per rater and team leader training
- \$150 per rater scoring session or pre-rater training
- Reimbursement related travel expenses
- 10% administrative fee
- Contract not to exceed \$200,000 (August rating invoice \$6,413)
- Testing Fees Collected: Approximately \$50,000 per year

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BCHS Web Site



Qualified Interpreters Web Page

- MOIS Link
- Rules
- Contact Information
- Notices
- Applications and Forms
- Certification Information
- Board Information
- Statute
- Rules



Our Contact Information

QI Program Staff

- Colleen Curtis, Administrative Law Specialist
- Heather Keel, Analyst
- Tammy Grice, Analyst

BCHS Management

- Heather Hosey, RN, BSN, Director, Health Facility Licensing, Permits & Support Division
- Larry Horvath, Director, Community and Health Systems

Phone: 517-241-0097 or 517-335-1980 (BCHS mainline)

E-mail: LARA-BCHS-Qualified Interpreter@michigan.gov



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