

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

Qualified Interpreter (QI) Program

August 9, 2023



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
- EIPA — Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment
- Michigan BEI Interpreter Credential — Levels 1, 2, and 3

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Highlights & Happenings

- We are excited to announce a new staff member with the Qualified Interpreter Section. This position will assist with day-to-day operations with a focus on developing, conducting, and evaluating internal and external trainings, informational resources, and public information related to the Program.



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Renewal Highlights

- All certifications renew each year (annually) with RID and EIPA renewing by June 30th.
- From May 2023 to present we have processed over 600 applications and are diligently working to complete the any pending applications and late submittals.
- We sent out a renewal helpful hints sheet to interpreters on May 4th, 2023. The renewal sheet is also posted on our website. We have received some positive feedback from the interpreting community on this communication.
- Renewal process will continue to allow expired individuals to remain on the registry while applications are being processed. We are also working with IT to implement maintenance changes to registry expiration dates.



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Renewal Timeline Graphics

- RID/EIPA

| Date | Description | Fee |
|--------------------------|---|-------|
| June 30, 2023 | Renewal period ends for timely submissions without late fees. Renew here . | \$30 |
| July 1 - August 15, 2023 | 45-day grace period for renewal. An additional \$15 late fee is in effect during this period. | \$45 |
| After August 15, 2023 | Reinstatement is required | \$170 |

- BEI

| Date | Description | Fee |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Up to expiration of certificate | Renewal period ends for timely submissions without late fees. Renew here . | \$30 |
| Up to 89 days after expiration | Late renewal timeframe. Includes late fee plus renewal fee. | \$45 |
| 90 days or more after expiration | 90 days after certification expires, retesting is required at the current level to be reinstated. | \$125/175 |



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Updated Testing Stats

Fiscal Year (FY 23) October 2022 - July 2023

TEP Test Results

| Testers | Passed | Failed | % Passing Rates |
|---------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| 54 | 33 | 21 | 61% |

BEI Performance Test Results

| Level | Testers | Pass | Fail | % Passing Rates |
|------------------|---------|------|------|-----------------|
| BEI 1 (Basic) | 19 | 10 | 9 | 53% |
| BEI 2 (Advanced) | 20 | 6 | 14 | 30% |
| BEI 3 (Master) | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0% |

Pending Results: BEI 1 (Basic) – 1; BEI 2 (Advanced) – 3



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Follow up on Board inquires

Explain how the public can be involved in the Board meetings?

The Board meetings are noticed pursuant to the Open Meetings Act and are open to the public. The public can provide comments during the public comment portion of the Board meeting.

Videos in ASL?

Thank you for your question. We are still working on this project.

Requirements for healthcare professionals regulated by LARA to take implicit bias training, does this apply to interpreters working in healthcare settings?

The requirement for Implicit Bias Training was added to the Public Health Code--General Rules for professions licensed or registered under that Code. A list of professions can be found [here](#). Qualified interpreters are certified under the Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act, 1982 PA 204.

Replacing the Michigan Online Interpreter System (MOIS)? What can be done in the meantime? Does the state process require an in-house build or can an existing system off-the shelf be purchased?

We are working on replacing MOIS. Options are being researched for funding and replacement. We are governed by the State of Michigan rules on system replacements.

Effective communication suggestions.

We welcome feedback you can provide on the facilitation of Board meetings.



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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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2023 BCCHS QI Accomplishments and Announcements

- An increased number of TEP exam openings were offered through July to accommodate testing applicants.
- Renewal helpful hints sheet was emailed to interpreter email addresses in May 2023. Positive feedback has been received from the interpreting community.
- For Board members and Board meeting interpreters, please submit travel vouchers and interpreter service invoices to the Department before the end of this Fiscal year (by September 30th, 2023)



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Overview of Statute, Executive Order, and Rules

DEAF PERSONS' INTERPRETERS ACT **Act 204 of 1982**

393.508a Rules.

Sec. 8a. (1) The division, with the advice of the department of education, shall promulgate rules, under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, that govern procedures for application, testing, revocation, suspension or limitation of certification, continuing education, renewals, and grievances, minimum credential requirements and levels, and minimum standards of practice.

(2) The rules promulgated under this section shall be coordinated with the department of education and the administrative rule for special education, R 340.1793a of the Michigan administrative code.



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Statute continued...

DEAF PERSONS' INTERPRETERS ACT **Act 204 of 1982**

393.508a Rules.

Promulgate rules governing procedures for:

- Application
- Testing
- Revocation
- Suspension or Limitation of Certification
- Continuing Education
- Renewals
- Grievances
- Minimum Credential Requirements and Levels
- Minimum Standards of Practice



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Executive Order No. 2017-8

- Created the Board of Interpreters for the Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing
 - The Board consists of 9 members.
 - The Board shall advise LARA on all matters related to the certification of interpreters and the administration of the Deaf Persons' Interpreters Act, 1982 PA 204...
 - The Board is advisory, and our goal is to facilitate and support the Board meetings by posting of notices and scheduling meetings.



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Qualified Interpreter Rules

- Update the Qualified Interpreter Administrative Rules:
 - Previous draft withdrawn
 - New draft is under development
 - Created a preliminary workgroup to revise the rule drafting
 - A rules workgroup with stakeholders will be formed



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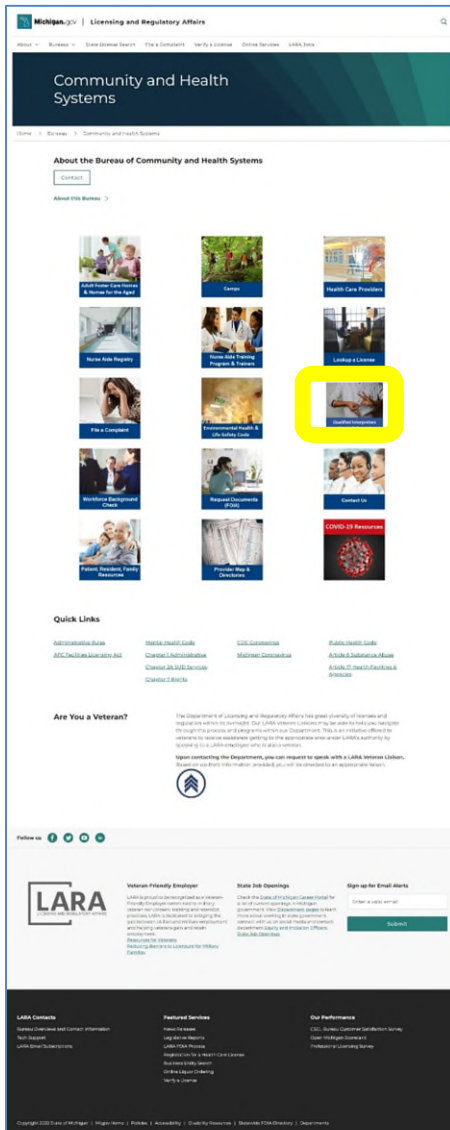
Update on next year's budget

- Fiscal Year 2023 to 2024 (October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024)



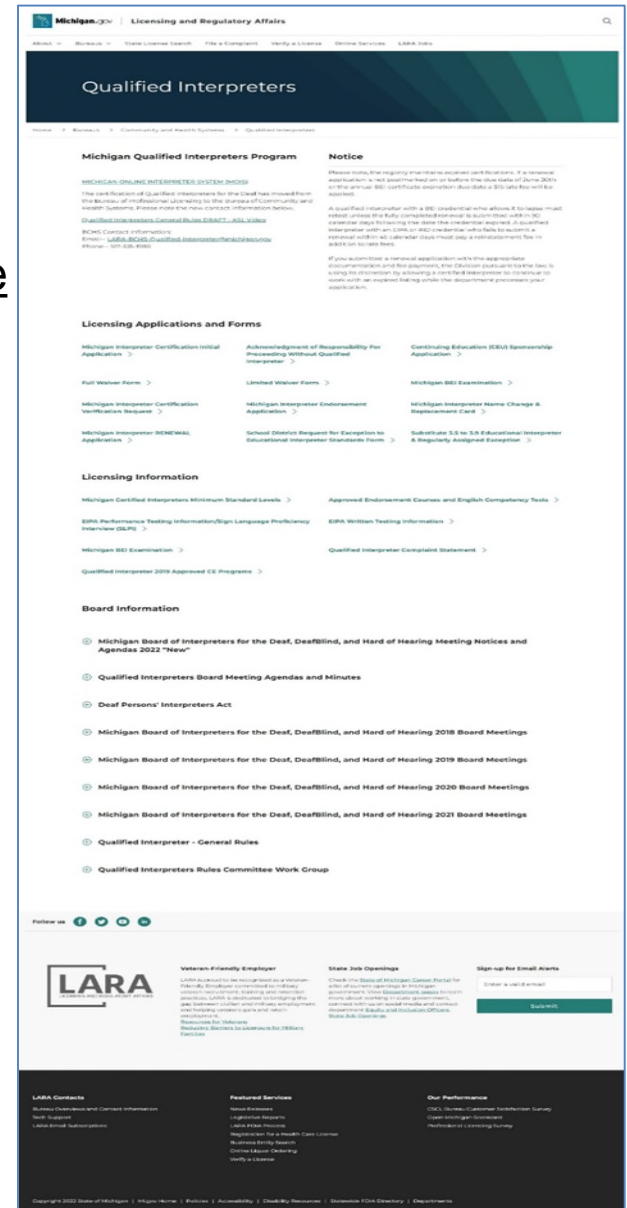
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BCHS Web Site



Qualified Interpreters Web Page

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



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Our Contact Information

QI Program Staff

- Colleen Curtis, Administrative Law Specialist
- Heather Keel, Analyst
- Katrina Johnson, Human Resources Developer

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)

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