

June 1999

## INSTRUCTIONAL AIDE - INTERPRETER

### DEFINITION

To assist the teacher and student to understand each other by the use of manual systems of communication - Signed English, Pidgin Signed English (PSE), American Sign Language (ASL), finger spelling, etc., which are supportive of the instructional program and conducive to the academic, physical, social and emotional growth of students; and to do related work as required.

### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Positions in this classification are established to interpret the teacher's speech to deaf and hard of hearing students and to interpret the DHH students' words to the teacher, allowing DHH students to be actively involved in the learning process.

### ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Translates communications between students and teacher to compensate for the students' hearing loss; translates a wide variety of materials into sign language (e.g., films, records, tapes; assists students on field trips); may oversee students in the temporary absence of the instructor; assists students by guiding them in a variety of areas, such as physical education, academic and vocational classes; acts as an assistant to a teacher in performing assigned tasks, and perform other duties as required.

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

#### Ability to:

- Communicate effectively using Signed English, PSE, ASL as measured by the Instructional Interpreter Rating Scale;
- Translate oral and written communication into manual communication and signed communication into spoken English;
- Learn school policies, methods and practices used with students in a classroom setting;
- Demonstrate sensitivity and have a genuine concern about student achievement;
- Use good judgment in a variety of circumstances and situations;
- Understand and follow oral and written directions;
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with students and adults;
- Understand the interpreter's code of ethics and its implementation in the educational setting.

Experience:

Six months of full time experience or its equivalent, including paid, volunteer or family related experience, as an interpreter for the deaf using oral and manual communication. Must be able to communicate in PSE and American Sign Language.

Education:

Equivalent to completion of twelfth grade, preferably including or supplemented by courses in American Sign Language.