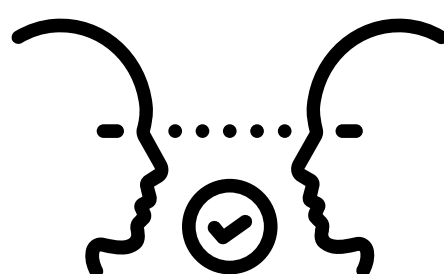


Tips for Working with ASL Interpreters

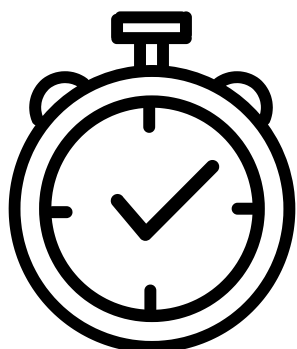


SPEAK DIRECTLY TO THE DEAF PERSON

- Maintain eye contact and address the Deaf individual directly—speak to them, not the interpreter.
- Interpreters use first-person language (e.g., "I need help with..."), so speak naturally as you would with anyone else.



ALLOW TIME FOR INTERPRETATION

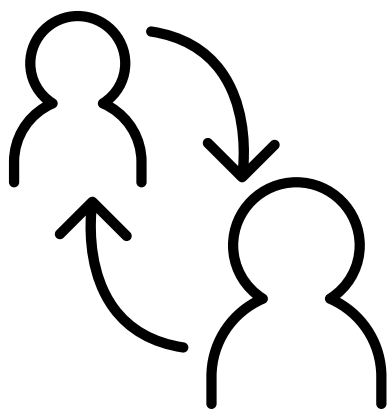


- The interpreter may be a few seconds behind the speaker or pause to ask for clarification.
- Pause after key points and avoid rapid speech or interruptions. But speak at a natural pace—there's no need to slow down unnaturally, just be mindful and clear.

PRIORITIZE INTERPRETER VISIBILITY

- Ensure the Deaf consumer can clearly see the interpreter at all times.
- Avoid walking in front of the interpreter or otherwise blocking their view.

ENCOURAGE TURN-TAKING AND SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION



- Overlapping conversation is difficult to interpret. Take turns speaking and wait for the interpreter to finish before continuing.
- If there is a large number of active participants, it may be appropriate for participants to identify themselves before speaking (e.g., "This is Cathy...").
- Overlapping conversations are difficult to interpret.

PROVIDE CONTEXT

- Share relevant materials or topics with the interpreter before the session.
- Brief them on specific terms, names, acronyms or jargon.

