NCSC Resources – At a Glance

September 23, 2019

CLAC Conference
• Reports with strategies and recommendations
  *(National Call to Action, Called to Action, SJI Grant Report)*
• ABA Standards
• DOJ Guidance
Language Access Resources

Language Access
Resource Guide

The state court community has long been cognizant of the need for the effective use of court interpreters to improve access to justice for Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals. Demographic trends make it clear that the American judicial system faces mounting difficulties in meeting the challenge of ethnic and linguistic diversity. In an effort to move towards greater awareness of these challenges, combined with the determination to implement programs to improve interpreting services, a growing number of state court systems have instituted certification and continuing education programs and have prescribed codes of professional responsibility for court interpreters. The newly-established Language Access Services Section (LASS) provides state courts with resources to overcome language barriers in the courts and to ensure that providing individuals with limited English proficiency with access to the courts is a core function of the courts. LASS works closely with the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) through the Language Access Advisory Committee (LAAC) and the Council of Language Access Coordinators (CLAC).

Links to related online resources are listed below. Non-digitized publications may be borrowed from the NCSC Library; call numbers are provided.

All Resources

Featured Links
Interpreting for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Cases. Alert for court interpreters: NCSC, with support from the Office on Violence Against Women, offers a free interactive online course to help interpreters better work with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Language Access Services Section (LASS). LASS provides state courts with resources to overcome language barriers in the courts and to ensure that providing individuals with limited English proficiency with access to the courts is a core function of the courts.

Language Access Programs by State.
Language Access Resources

Language Access Programs by State
Language Access Programs by State

New Mexico

Language Access Coordinator Contact
Paula Cousalé-Findikóglu, Senior Statewide Program Manager Language Access Services
Language Access Services, New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts
237 Don Gaspar
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: (505) 984-4122 (Paula Cousalé-Findikóglu - Sr. Statewide Program Manager)
Email: accpvc@nmcourts.com
Website: https://languageaccess.nmcourts.gov/

Code of Ethics or Rules of Professional Conduct

Language Access Plan

Interpreter Statutes and Rules
Coordination/Supervision of Interpreters: Interpreters are certified or otherwise qualified for work in NM State Courts by the Administrative Office of the Courts, Language Access Services (LAS), a program of the Court Services Division. Scheduling, coordinating, and supervision of freelance interpreters (the majority of interpreters working in NM State Courts) for all courts is also done through Language Access Services’ coordinators. Language Access Services Coordinators are assigned by region statewide.

Cost of Interpreter Services (including fees to freelance and salaries of staff interpreters): FY 19 Annual Operating Budget: $3,818,600.00

Budget for Language Access Program (not including direct interpreter services): Approximately $800,000

Funding for Language Access Program: By appropriation: State General Funds.

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (spoken language): $50,000.00 - $64,000.00

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (sign language): N/A

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified spoken language): $40.00

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified sign language): Legal Apprentice $40.00, Legally Qualified: $50.00, Legal Specialist: $50.00

Difference in Pay between Spanish and LOTS Interpreters: N/A

Minimum Certification Requirements: Two week online Orientation Course or completion of Justice System Interpreter 26 week course (both through NMCLA), passing NCSL Written Exam at 80%, passing Simultaneous Oral Background Check, and half day introductory seminar post-certification. To maintain certification must have 20 hours approved continuing education every two years, including two hours of ethics. For more information or for languages for which there are no nationally recognized exam see https://www.nmcenterforlanguageaccess.org/cms/en/court-interpreter-certification/about-cic

2019 Dates and Locations of Testing and Training

Additional Information:

Language Access Services 2018 Annual Report
New Mexico Center for Language Access
Court Interpretation Resources

• Tests, Tests, Tests

• 3 Versions of Written Exams

• 27 Versions of Oral Exams in 18 Languages

• 115 Trained Oral Exam Raters
Court Interpretation Resources

• And all supporting materials
  ▪ Written Exam Administration Manual
  ▪ Oral Exam Construction Manual
  ▪ NCSC State Court Interpreter Testing Desk Reference Manual
  ▪ Test Rating Manual
State court interpreter FAQs

State Court Interpreter Information

Q. How do I go about becoming a state court interpreter?
A. Please note that the NCSC is not a credentialing entity for state court interpreters; the credentialing of state court interpreters is done by the individual states. In order to become a state court interpreter, you must register and meet the specific requirements of the state in which you would like to interpret. You may find state contact information and additional information on the program in your state of residence through our map of language access programs: http://www.ncsc.org/Services-and-Experts/Areas-of-expertise/Language-access/Resources-for-Program-Managers/LAP-Map/Map.aspx.

For additional information about court interpreting in general, please visit the “Resources for Court Interpreters” webpage on the NCSC site located at: http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/State-Interpreter-Certification.aspx

Q. Where do I locate my state’s contact information regarding court interpreting?
A. To locate the contact information for court interpreter program staff in your state of residence or a state of interest, please visit the map of language access programs on the NCSC website, located at:

http://www.ncsc.org/Services-and-Experts/Areas-of-expertise/Language-access/Resources-for-Program-Managers/LAP-Map/Map.aspx

The individual state links on the map of language access programs lead to the contact information of the appropriate Language Access Coordinator in your state’s court system, as well as other information about your state’s court interpreter program. You will also see a link to the state’s web site, where you can find additional information about the state’s processes and procedures for court interpreters to become credentialled.
Court Interpreter Resources

• Self-assessment and study tools
Court Interpreter Resources

- Legal glossaries and dictionaries in 28 languages

Legal Glossaries and Dictionaries

Resources include monolingual and bilingual reference materials for legal terminology developed by courts, court-stakeholders, and academic bodies. The resources listed include materials that are not products of the National Center for State Courts.

Guidelines for the Development of Legal Glossaries

**English**
- Glossary of Legal Terms (United States Courts)
- Glossary of Commonly Used Court & Justice System Terminology (Consortium for Language Access in the Courts)

**Spanish**
- Glossary of Legal (and Related) Terms and Courthouse Signs English/Spanish (New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts)
- English-Spanish Glossary (Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts)
- Diccionario del Español Jurídico (Royal Spanish Academy)
- English/Spanish Legal Glossary (Superior Court of Sacramento)

**Languages other than Spanish**
- Amharic: Legal Terminology in Amharic (United Cultures of Canada)
- Arabic: English/Arabic Legal Glossary (Superior Court of Sacramento)
Court Interpretation Resources

- And the Guidelines for the Development of Legal Glossaries (developed by a CLAC working group)

Guidelines for the Development of Legal Glossaries
Created by a Council of Language Access Coordinators Working Group
April 2018
Support of Peer Resources

• CLAC listserv and full archive of listserv queries
Support of Peer Resources

- Resource list of interpreter contacts suggested on the listserv
- Currently includes 452 interpreters in 122 languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Name of Interpreter</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>E-mail Address</th>
<th>State of Residency</th>
<th>Referring State/Territory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amharic</td>
<td>Mr. Okony Cham</td>
<td>(345) 646-7667</td>
<td><a href="mailto:okony.cham@usu.edu">okony.cham@usu.edu</a></td>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>Los Angeles Superior Court</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africans</td>
<td>Daniel Kouk</td>
<td>(910) 613-4488</td>
<td><a href="mailto:danielmroux@gmail.com">danielmroux@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Maine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
<td>Jacque Du Plessis</td>
<td>(414) 301-3369</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jacques@uvm.edu">jacques@uvm.edu</a></td>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
<td>Amla Mayher</td>
<td>(509) 302-5962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
<td>Besiana Geleaz</td>
<td>(661) 470-0641</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
<td>Editra Bozgo</td>
<td>(801) 755-8209</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
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<td>(801) 554-9053</td>
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<td>Utah</td>
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<td>(801) 519-2111</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albanian</td>
<td>Suzana Vytari</td>
<td>248-217-0128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Ernias Abraham</td>
<td>702-427-8215</td>
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<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Gema Zaid</td>
<td>702-275-1158</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gemaazid@yahoo.com">gemaazid@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Abreham Alemu Fanta</td>
<td>(401) 215-4037</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abremen.f@gmail.com">abremen.f@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Noel Dawit Abraham</td>
<td>(310) 500-6191</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ndawitab@gmail.com">ndawitab@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Semait M. Abraha</td>
<td>(4087) 386-4336</td>
<td><a href="mailto:venzaare@gmail.com">venzaare@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Kemal Saleh Mahmoud</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Yosan Bozani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Ahsenafit Sirgut</td>
<td>425-409-3307</td>
<td><a href="mailto:a_a_ahsenafit@yahoo.com">a_a_ahsenafit@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:fashwot.mb@gmail.com">fashwot.mb@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Melkonian Zerdo</td>
<td>206-251-9775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
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<td>Arabic</td>
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Support of Peer Resources

- CLAC Regional Calls – held at least twice a year for state program managers to obtain programmatic updates and learn from each other
NCSC State-Contracted Projects

- Language Access Planning
- Community Outreach and Recruitment Campaigns
- Multilingual Content Development (Print, Video, and Audio)
- Court Interpreter Training and Pipeline Development
- Development of Online Training Modules
- Translation Protocols
- Plain Language Content Development
Other Resources

- Need anything else?
- Call or email us at any time!