



Sign Language Interpreter Program Transfer Guide

Grand Rapids Community College and Lansing Community College for Sign Language Interpreter C.A. and Sign Language Interpreter A.A.A.

Description

The Sign Language Interpreter is a person specially trained to facilitate communication between the Deaf, Deaf/Blind, Hard of Hearing, and hearing communities. Employment opportunities may be in educational settings, freelance, or contracted with agencies to provide interpreter services for deaf persons. State of Michigan PA 204 of 2007 states that interpreters must possess certification in order to be employed. State credentials Board for Evaluation of Interpreters (BEI), are available through the Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS) in Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) for the State of Michigan. To apply for BEI certification in Michigan, you must have at least an associate degree from an accredited institution. In addition to the State of MI credentials, graduates may also consider taking the Education Interpreters Performance Assessment (EIPA) or National Interpreter Certification (NIC). The NIC requires students to have a bachelor's degree in any field.

Additional Information

Students interested in seeking a degree will complete their general education courses and beginning American Sign Language courses at GRCC before transferring to LCC to complete their degree. After completing their courses at GRCC, students will transfer to LCC during the summer semester to take additional courses that will give them the skills they need to screen into the Sign Language Interpreter Program. For additional information on LCC's Sign Language Interpreter A.A.A. program, click [here](#). Students who wish to transfer to another institution upon completing their degree from LCC should select coursework indicated for that institution and/or check with an advisor from their desired institution. Not all courses in this pathway transfer to all colleges.

Students who already have a bachelor's degree and are interested in gaining the knowledge and skills necessary to undergo interpreter certification testing through a certificate program will complete their beginning sign language courses at GRCC, and then transfer to LCC during the summer semester to take additional courses that will give them the skills they need to screen into the Sign Language Interpreter Program. For additional information on LCC's Sign Language Interpreter C.A. program, click [here](#).

Contact Information

This pathway is subject to change.

For more information about this pathway or GRCC classes, please contact the Language and Thought Department in Raleigh J. Finkelstein Hall (Office Suite 330), by telephone at 616-234-3251, or via email at languageandthought@grcc.edu.

Required Courses that may be taken at GRCC

LCC will grant credit to the applicant/student for successful completion of the following courses with a minimum grade of 2.0 unless specified otherwise.

Grand Rapids Community College Courses	Lansing Community College Courses
EN 101 – English Composition I	ENGL 121 – Composition I
COM 236 – Intercultural Communication or SO 251 – Principles of Sociology	COMM 280 – Intercultural Communication or SOCL 120 – Introduction to Sociology
SL 150 – Introduction to Deaf Culture	SIGN 160 – Intro to the Deaf Community
SL 171 – American Sign Language I	SIGN 161 – American Sign Language I
AS 103 – Descriptive Astronomy or BI 117 - General Human Anatomy/Physiology or CHM 110 – Chemistry in the Modern World or GE 132 – Physical Geography or PC 101 – General Physical Science	ASTR 201 – Introductory Astronomy or BIOL 145 – Intro Anatomy and Physiology or CHEM 135 – Chemistry in Society or GEOG 220 – Weather, Forecasting, and Climate or ISCI 131 – Integrated Physical Science
MA 110 - College Algebra or MA 124 – Math for Liberal Arts Students or PY 281 – Intro to Statistics	MATH 120 – College Algebra or MATH 119 – Math—Applications for Living or STAT 170 – Introduction to Statistics
SL 172 – American Sign Language II	SIGN 162 – American Sign Language II
SL 155 – Fingerspelling	SIGN 166 – Fingerspelling

*Students who wish to transfer to another institution upon completing their degree from LCC should select coursework indicated for that institution and/or check with an advisor from their desired institution.

Recommended Course Sequence at GRCC

Semester I (Fall)	Semester II (Winter)
EN 101	AS 103, BI 117, CHM 110, GE 132, or PC 101
COM 236 or SO 251	MA 110, MA 124, or PY 281
SL 150	SL 172
SL 171	SL 155

*Based on the 2025/2026 Catalog Year.

This pathway is subject to change.

GRCC students should contact an advisor at LCC during the winter semester to assist with enrollment into summer courses at LCC to continue on this pathway. To speak with an advisor at LCC, please contact the Sign Language Interpreter Program, 517-483-5329, signadvising@star.lcc.edu.

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