

Educational Interpreter Exchange: Bridging the Gap



GRANT RECIPIENTS

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

High school American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters were provided with a unique opportunity to observe the interpreting and support services provided at post-secondary education sites to ensure that deaf/hard-of-hearing high school students are receiving quality interpreting services that are on par with college-level interpreters, as well as understanding of the varying degrees of student support and responsibilities needed from interpreters at each grade level.

Five interpreters each were recruited at Solvay High School and at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). The participants met and fulfilled the purpose of the grant via two videoconferences to discuss job responsibilities and expectations of interpreting at each level in addition to a full-day visit to RIT by the high school interpreters. To wrap up and evaluate the professional development opportunity, the participants created goals for improving transition from high school to college for deaf/hard-of-hearing students.

NYS STANDARD

Career Development and
Occupational Studies

GRADE LEVEL

High school and college levels

STUDENTS SERVED

13 students at high school level
Unknown number at college level

STUDENT OUTCOMES

High school students will be better prepared for transition to college and the shift in the role of an ASL interpreter from the high school to college level, as well as the shift in the academic expectations at the college level. Also, students will be prepared to independently locate academic resources at college rather than relying on interpreters, contributing to higher academic success beyond high school.