

State of Arizona Department of Education

Special Education Monitoring Alert

September 2012

Alert to Special Education Directors: Compliance with R7-2-622, Educational Interpreters

Starting in October 2012, the Program Support and Monitoring unit in Exceptional Student Services (ESS) will be reviewing the qualifications of educational interpreters as required under Arizona Administrative Code R7-2-622. *Educational interpreter* is defined in this rule as "a person trained to translate in sign language for students identified to require such service."

At the time a PEA is monitored, if any educational interpreters are working with students with hearing impairments in the PEA, ESS will request to review the following documentation supporting the interpreter's qualifications:

- High school diploma or GED
- Valid fingerprint clearance card
- Proficiency of interpreting skills through one of the following:
 - Minimum passing score of 3.5 or better on the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA)
 - Valid Certificate of Interpretation (CI) and/or Certificate of Transliteration (CT) from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
 - Valid certificate from the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) at Level
 3 or higher

If an educational interpreter does not meet the above qualifications, ESS will review and track the professional development plan that is required to be in place when a person with lesser qualifications is hired. The required components of the plan and the plan timelines are detailed in R7-2-622. The program specialist assigned to the PEA can also detail the requirements. A listing of program specialists can be found on the ADE website at

http://www.azed.gov/special-education/program-support-monitoring/

