

TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE INTERPRETERS!

3 UNITS COLLEGE CREDIT OFFERED THROUGH MERRITT COLLEGE

On-Call Paid Positions with Asian Health Services' Language & Cultural Access Program

Language Pairs for Feb-March 2009 Training

- Spanish-English
- Cantonese-English
- Vietnamese-English
- Mandarin-English
- Fluency required in each language of the pair

Applications Deadline

Application Deadline is 1/13/09. However, we encourage you to turn in your application sooner so we can schedule you for your Required Individual Orientation and Language Screenings

Training Dates & Times

- Tuesdays: 1:00 – 5:30 pm
2/17, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10,
3/17, 3/24 and 3/31
AND
- Saturdays: 9 am – 2:30pm
2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14,
3/21 and 3/28

Post-Training Testing

Dates to be arranged

Fee of \$125. Required for on-call employment with Asian Health Services. Optional for others. 1-hour appointments to be arranged.

Fees

- Tuition: \$62 for CA residents
- Books: Approx \$50
- Post-Training Test: \$125

Financial aid possible for low-income students.



ASIAN HEALTH SERVICES



Are you bilingual and interested in improving access to quality health care for limited English speakers? Are you available to interpret during the day? Or do you already interpret in the health care setting? If yes, we'd like to hear from you!

For over 13 years, Asian Health Services (AHS) has operated a non-profit community language bank that specializes in serving immigrant patients and their health care providers.

Our next training is 60-hours and again offered through Merritt College. Class size is limited to 25 training participants. Please apply early.

How to Apply

1. Download and complete an application from:
www.asianhealthservices.org/lcap and click on "application." Or contact us and request an application. E-mail preferred.
2. Return a completed application to us by one of the methods below:
E-mail: LCAP@ahschc.org
FAX: (510) 986-1068
Mail: Asian Health Services
818 Webster St.
Oakland, CA 94607
Att: LCAP Training

**OAKLAND training sites
to be announced!**

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3. We will review applications and arrange for potential training candidates to attend a required orientation and language screening.
4. After the orientation and language screening, the final class list will be developed. Notifications will be e-mailed or mailed on or before Tuesday, 2/3/2009.

Questions??

Leave a message at: (510) 986-1153, x206

E-mail: LCAP@ahschc.org

This Training is funded in part by The California Endowment.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

- Q.** What curriculum is used for the training?
- A.** The *Connecting Worlds: Training for Healthcare Interpreters* curriculum is used. It incorporates the California Standards for Healthcare Interpreters developed by the California Healthcare Interpreting Association (CHIA).
- Q.** Who are the trainers?
- A.** Potential trainers include experts such as Amy Choy-Kwan (former Kaiser Fremont interpreter), Judit Marin, MA (CHIA Board member), Rosario Nevado (Stanford Hospital and Clinics and CHIA VP) and Carmen Castro-Rojas (CHIA Board Member and CCSF Instructor). Experienced, trained interpreters serve as practice session coaches.
- Q.** What are the criteria for course admission?
- A.** Training participants must have excellent bilingual language skills. Admissions criteria will include a distribution of students in the three languages, ability to attend the full training, current health care interpreting responsibilities or interest in becoming a health care interpreter.
- Q.** What kind of college credit is available for this course?
- A.** Three (3) credit units are available and applicable to an AA degree but not transferable to a UC or CSU.
- Q.** How do I apply for financial assistance?
- A.** The philosophy of Merritt College Financial Aid Office is that every student should have access to the educational experience at Merritt College who so desires. Seek assistance at Merritt College Financial Aid Office located in Building P-Room 339, office hours 8:00a.m. - 7:00p.m M & T, 8:00a.m. - 4: 30p.m. W-F.
- Q.** What are the requirements to receive credit for the class? What if I can't attend all sessions?
- A.** To receive class credit, you must attend all class sessions, turn in homework assignments, and pass a final written exam. Participants are allowed one absence (with assigned make-up assignments) and three missing homework assignments. If you know you will miss more than one session, we recommend you wait for another training. We are available to discuss this with you, if needed.
- Q.** Will I get a job after the training?
- A.** If you attend the full-training and pass the post-training testing, you become eligible to join AHS' on-call interpreter pool. You will be paid \$18.75 per hour and can expect to receive 5-10 hours of work per week depending on the language and your availability. As an on-call employee, we co-contribute to social security (and pay other legally mandated benefits). You are also covered by our liability insurance when you interpret for our clients. A number of our interpreters and trainees have been hired by local employers as interpreters, but there is no guarantee of a job.
- Q.** Will I become a "Certified Interpreter?"
- A.** No federal agency, California state agency, or professional organization currently offers certification for interpreters assisting patients and providers in the typical health care setting. (State medical certification exists for interpreting for workers compensation cases.)
- Q.** What will I receive after I complete the training?
- A.** If you attend all 60 hours of the training and pass the post-training knowledge and skills testing, you will receive a **letter of successful completion**. If you attend the full training but do not pass the post-training test or do not participate in skills testing, you will receive a **letter of participation**.
- Q.** I don't see my language pair listed. Can I still apply?
- A.** If your language is not listed, we are not offering training in that language. You are still welcome to fill out an application. If in the future we offer training in your language, we will contact you.
- Q.** If I submit an application, am I automatically enrolled?
- A.** No. We usually receive many applications for each training seat. After reviewing the applications, we will invite applicants to attend a required orientation and language screening session.