

**Definitions Committee Recommendations**  
**December 2, 2011**  
**Glossary of Terms**

**Accurately Conveying**

The interpreter acts as a bridge between the person communicating the messages and the intended receiver. The interpreter accurately conveys what was said by comprehending it in the original language and reiterating that message in the language most readily understood by the receiver (effective communication, ATA and eHow.com).

**Advisory Committee** is defined in HB 233 as:

“Advisory committee” means the Advisory Committee on Qualifications for Health Care Translators and Interpreters” [Sec.531.701 (1)] MEMBERS. (a) The advisory committee is comprised of not fewer than 10 members appointed by the executive commissioner as provided by this section. (Section 531.705)

**Certification** is the result of having taken a formal assessment where a governmental, academic or professional organization ensures that an individual has performed at a predetermined level and has the knowledge and skills to perform a particular service. (NCIHC)

**Certified Interpreter** is one whose interpretation competence has been tested and approved by a governmental, academic or profession organization. (ATA)

In some cases, screening tests are administered by an employing health, interpreter or referral agencies. The results of these tests may convey “certification” only for that particular agency.

**Effective communication** is a two way process through which the sender conveys a message that the receiver readily receives and may respond in an equally effective manner. Effective communication involves an interpreter who ensures messages reflect the spirit and intent of the sender and is complete. The interpreter requires knowledge of the subject matter.

**The interpreting process** includes: direct preparation, consideration of terminology, specific personnel or clientele in the setting, role and cultural differences. It also involves processing language meaning and equivalence, checking potential production, and producing the interpretation in the language desired.

**The translation process** includes: analyzing the source text, researching unfamiliar terminology, preparing a draft translation, editing for content, editing for style, formatting, proofreading, and incorporating client feedback.

**Ethics**

The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf promotes the Code of Professional Conduct.

The Board of Evaluation of Interpreters recognizes the RID Code of Professional Conduct.

The National Council on Interpreting in Health Care has published a National Code of Ethics for Health Care Interpreters.

**Health Care** is defined in HB 233 as:

“Medical care, surgical care, hospital care, or any remedial care provided to diagnose, prevent, alleviate, or cure a patient’s injury or illness, including mental health care” [Sec. 531.701 (2)]

**Health Care Interpreter** is defined in HB 233 as:

“A person who is trained to communicate with a person who has limited English proficiency or who is deaf or hard of hearing by accurately conveying in English and the language of the person who has limited English proficiency or who is deaf or hard of hearing the meaning of health care related statements made orally.” [Sec.531.701 (3)]

**Health Care Practitioner** as defined in HB 233 does not include patient advocates, intake personnel, business office personnel. The definition states:

“Health care practitioner” means an individual who furnishes patient health care services under a license, certificate, or registration issued by this state.” [Sec.531.701 (4)]

**Health Care Translator** is defined in HB 233 as:

“A person who is trained to communicate in writing with a person with limited English proficiency by accurately translating into English and the language of the person who has limited English proficiency written health care related statements. [Sec. 531.701 (5)]

**Mental Health, also known as Behavioral Health**, is part of the definition under health care in HB 233. The mental healthcare field is broad and includes psychiatric assessment and treatment, group and individual psychotherapy, counseling, psychological testing, substance abuse treatment and more. (RID)

**Persons with limited English proficiency** is defined in HB 233 as:

“A person who” (A) because of the person’s place of birth or culture, speaks a language other than English; and (B) does not speak English adequately to communicate effectively with a health care practitioner.” {Sec.531.701 (6)]

**Role of the Health Care Interpreter** is to facilitate communication between the health care staff and the patient in physical and behavioral health settings. During this interaction the interpreter should ensure that diagnosis, prognosis and treatment including medication regimen is communicated in a manner that the patient can understand.