



#T.E.A.C.H.
Training Educators and Creating Hope

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ASL ENDORSEMENTS

The ASL endorsement (FS) is available for interim certificates even without an MTTC. In lieu of an MTTC, candidates must demonstrate ASL proficiency to earn the FS endorsement. See the chart below to find a list of preferred and alternative assessments for ensuring teacher proficiency in ASL, which is based on the testing protocols and levels referenced in Michigan's ASL teacher preparation standards (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/American_Sign_Language_Standards_553937_7.pdf).

**American Sign Language Certification
Proficiency Assessments**

Foreign Service Index	ACTFL-OPI	Preferred			Alternative																		
		* preferred assessments for ASL endorsement			<i>Assessments used for interpreters</i>																		
		* ASLPI American Sign Language Proficiency Interview	* SLPI Sign Language Proficiency Interview	* ASLTA American Sign Language Teacher Association	NIC National Interpreter's Certification	EIPA Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment Elementary K-8 Secondary 9-16	ICTC CI/CT Interpreter certificate transliterate certification (recognized but no longer administered)	CSC Certificate of interpretation (recognized but no longer administered)	NAD (recognized but no longer administered)	CDI Certified Deaf Interpreter Examination	BEI Board for Evaluation of Interpreters Test Texas/Arizona												
0	0	0	No functioning skills			0																	
1	Novice 1 low 2 mid 3 high+	1	Novice Novice+			1								1									
2	Intermediate 1 low 2 mid 3 high+	2	Survival Survival+		NIC Basic	2 3													Passage of both Knowledge and Performance Exams and earned CDI certification				
3	Advanced 1 low 2 mid 3 high	3	Intermediate Intermediate+		NIC Advanced	3.5 (until 8/31/2016) 4 (after 8/31/2016)															3		2
4	Superior	4	Advanced Advanced+		NIC Master																4		3
5	Distinguished	5	Superior			5								5									

As a Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) for American Sign Language (ASL) does not exist, the above table provides a menu of acceptable proficiency assessments (as well as alignment between them) that may be used to determine whether a teacher candidate has met the minimum level of ASL proficiency specified in Standards 1.1.1 and 1.1.3 of the [Michigan Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of American Sign Language](#), and in alignment with [Michigan Department of Civil Rights Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Qualified Interpreter General Rules](#). Levels indicated by a green shade are the minimum proficiencies that qualify a teacher candidate to be recommended for an ASL (FS) endorsement or allow a teacher with a Deaf and Hard of Hearing (SL) endorsement to be assigned to teach ASL as a world language without a district having to seek a permit, in accordance with flexibilities in ASL teacher placements outlined in the MDE memo of May 14, 2015. Levels indicated by a yellow shade are the minimum proficiencies that qualify a teacher to be assigned to teach ASL as a world language on a permit.

As noted in the footer below the table, levels indicated by a green shade are the minimum proficiencies that qualify a teacher candidate to be recommended for an ASL (FS) endorsement. The ASLPI is administered by Gallaudet University (<https://www.gallaudet.edu/the-american-sign-language-proficiency-interview/aslpi>), and registration can be made either directly through Gallaudet University or through the Michigan Department of Education's Office of Low Incidence Outreach (<https://mdelio.org/deaf-hard-of-hearing/asl-assessments/aslpi>).

Information on the SLPI may also be found online (<https://www.rit.edu/ntid/slpi/>).