



**VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Virtual, 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison

Contact: Carl Hampton (608) 266-2112

December 18, 2020

The following agenda describes the issues that the Committee plans to consider at the meeting. At the time of the meeting, items may be removed from the agenda. Please consult the meeting minutes for a record of the actions of the Committee.

AGENDA

9:00 A.M.

OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

A. Adoption of Agenda (1-2)

B. Approval of Minutes of September 23, 2020 (3)

C. Welcome and Introductions

D. Administrative Matters – Discussion and Consideration

- 1) Department, Staff and Committee Updates
- 2) Committee Members – Term Expiration Dates
- 3) Review of Committee Vacancies

E. Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration (4-13)

- 1) Consultation on Amendments to the Sign Language Interpreters Rule Chapters Necessitated by 2019 Wisconsin Act 17
 - a. Findings and Recommendations for Consideration
 1. Interpreting in Mental Health Settings
 2. Interpreting in Legal Settings
 3. Interpreting in Other Settings
- 2) Pending and Possible Rulemaking Projects

F. SLIAC Role in Complaint and Exemption Process – Discussion and Consideration

G. Education and Examination Matters – Discussion and Consideration

- 1) Testing Availability Update

H. Special Liaison Delegations – Discussion and Consideration

- 1) Mental Health Issues
- 2) Legal Matters (Disciplinary, Rules)
- 3) Credentialing Matters (Licensing, Education)

I. Credentialing Matters – Discussion and Consideration

- 1) Credentialing Statistics

J. Community Concerns Regarding DSPS Communications – Discussion and Consideration

K. Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests and Reports – Discussion and Consideration

- 1) Speaking Request from the Minnesota Association on Deaf Citizens (MADC)

L. Discussion and Consideration of Items Added After Preparation of Agenda

- 1) Introductions, Announcements and Recognition
- 2) Administrative Matters
- 3) Election of Officers
- 4) Education and Examination Matters
- 5) Credentialing Matters
- 6) Practice Matters
- 7) Administrative Rule Matters
- 8) Informational Items
- 9) Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) Matters
- 10) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed
- 11) Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests and Reports

M. Public Comments

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 5, 2021

MEETINGS AND HEARINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND MAY BE CANCELLED WITHOUT NOTICE.

Times listed for meeting items are approximate and depend on the length of discussion and voting. All meetings are held at 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison, Wisconsin, unless otherwise noted. In order to confirm a meeting or to request a complete copy of the board’s agenda, please call the listed contact person. The board may also consider materials or items filed after the transmission of this notice. Times listed for the commencement of disciplinary hearings may be changed by the examiner for the convenience of the parties. Requests for interpreters for the deaf or hard of hearing, or other accommodations, are considered upon request by contacting the Affirmative Action Officer, 608-266-2112, or the Meeting Staff at 608-266-5439.

**VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE
SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 23, 2020**

PRESENT: Zoua Cha, Leslie DeMeyer, Lindalu Fox-Wheeler, Michael Maffucci, Katy Schmidt, Cailin Yorot

EXCUSED: Pamela Sue Conine

STAFF: Carl Hampton, Division Administrator; Christian Albouras, Executive Director; Jameson Whitney, Legal Counsel; Jon Derenne, Rules Coordinator; Megan Glaeser, Bureau Assistant; and other Department staff

CALL TO ORDER

Christian Albouras, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. A quorum was confirmed with six (6) members present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Michael Maffucci moved, seconded by Katy Schmidt, to adopt the Agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2020

MOTION: Cailin Yorot moved, seconded by Leslie DeMeyer, to approve the Minutes of July 28, 2020 as published. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Lindalu Fox-Wheeler moved, seconded by Michael Maffucci, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Safety & Professional Services**

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and title of person submitting the request: Jon Derenne, Administrative Rules Coordinator		2) Date when request submitted: December 8, 2020 <small>Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline date which is 8 business days before the meeting</small>	
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections: Sign Language Interpreters Advisory Committee			
4) Meeting Date: December 18, 2020	5) Attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page? Consultation on amendments to the sign language interpreters rule chapters necessitated by 2019 Act 17. -Findings and recommendations for consideration	
7) Place Item in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Session <input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session		8) Is an appearance before the Board being scheduled? <i>(If yes, please complete Appearance Request for Non-DSPS Staff)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:
10) Describe the issue and action that should be addressed:			
11) Authorization			
<i>Jon Derenne</i>		December 18, 2020	
Signature of person making this request		Date	
Supervisor (if required)		Date	
Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda)		Date	
Directions for including supporting documents: 1. This form should be attached to any documents submitted to the agenda. 2. Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director. 3. If necessary, provide original documents needing Board Chairperson signature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a meeting.			

Consultation on amendments to the sign language interpreters rule chapters necessitated by 2019 Act 17:

- 1) **Sign language interpreter intermediate hearing license SPS 203.1 (4) a 3 “passage of the basic performance examination of and certification by the board for evaluation of interpreters.... Or a substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee”**

The committee would like to request the approval of a temporary exemption under the Intermediate Hearing License for interpreter training graduates from the 2020-2021 cohorts. Rule SPS 202.1 440.32 (3) c.

Rational: The BEI is still not available in Wisconsin and will not be available for the unforeseeable future. Due to COVID-19 border crossing for testing is not available. There is no date of when testing will be available. Can we provide temporary exemption at the intermediate level for the 2020-2021 graduates, for a minimum of 2 years (one cycle) and reassess the current circumstances at that time.

Point of Clarification: The aforementioned temporary exemption request is in no way intended to include exemption under Sign Language Interpreter - Advanced Hearing. There has not been any test available for the intermediate level and will not be in the foreseeable future. However, the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf - National Interpreting Certification (NIC) is available and offered at, Hear Wisconsin - Communication Link in Milwaukee WI for candidates of the Sign Language Interpreter-Advanced Hearing.

- 2) **The committee would like to advise that we approve the qualified mental health interpreter certification requirement of Sept 1, 2023 be postponed for a minimum of 2 years and be reassessed based on the current circumstances at that time.**

- a) **440.032 (3) (d)**

- b) **Page 8 Interpretation in mental health settings. 1. No sign language interpreter—intermediate deaf licensee may provide sign language interpretation services to a client in any setting related to treatment, as defined in s. 51.01 (17), involving mental health, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee. 2. Beginning on September 1, 2023, no sign language interpreter—advanced hearing or sign language interpreter—advanced deaf licensee may provide sign language interpretation services to a client in any setting related to treatment, as defined in s. 51.01 (17), involving mental health, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee, unless the licensee satisfies requirements established by the department by rule after receiving advice from the committee. (5) LICENSE RENEWAL. The renewal dates for licenses granted under sub. (3) are specified in s. 440.08 (2) (a) 68c. Renewal applications shall be submitted to the department on a form provided by the department and shall include the renewal fee determined by the department under s. 440.03 (9) (a) and evidence satisfactory to the department that the person’s certification or membership specified in sub.**

***From 2009-present, there are currently only 21 certified Mental Health Interpreters in the State of Wisconsin**

- The training for the 40-hour classroom portion is only offered once a year normally in August. After completing the classroom portion, the participant needs to decide if they will be doing their practicum either in their home state or in

Alabama. The participants have a year from the time of the classroom portion to complete the whole practicum or it expires. It is recommended from the start of your practicum that it is completed within 3 months' time.

-If in their home state, they need to complete 10-15 hours of observations in a variety of mental health appointments. Then the remaining time will be under the supervision of a MHIT instructor (Our state currently only has one approved instructor - Kate Block) to do the remaining of the 40 hours. Each participant is required to do at least 13 case studies, a portfolio, an article review and complete their hours to be presented to a committee to approve you to sit for the 8-hour written exam. On average if done in state, takes about 6 months to complete.

-If in Alabama, and approved, they will need to secure a flight, car and hotel for a week. The participant needs to have completed the 10-15 hours of observation in a variety of mental health settings and a min of 6 case studies prior to coming for their remainder of their practicum in Alabama. At the completion of the week of in person practicum under the supervision of a MHIT instructor, they normally sit for the 8-hour exam that Saturday or have the option of paying to take the exam in their home state at a later time.

3) Revise the previous decision to “share applications for Exemption with the committee’s co-chairs” to Share applications for Exemption with all members of the Sign Language Interpreter Advisory Committee.

Rational: Requests for temporary exemptions are reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the committee.

Chapter SPS 201

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

SPS 201.01 Unprofessional conduct is prohibited.

SPS 201.01 Unprofessional conduct is prohibited.

Unprofessional conduct includes any of the following:

(1) Conduct in the practice of sign language interpretation which evidences a lack of knowledge or ability to apply professional principles or skills.

(2) Failing to notify the department in writing within 30 days of any certification, verification, or membership required for licensure being revoked, suspended, expired, or invalidated. This may include certification, verification, or membership by or in National Association of the Deaf, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., Wisconsin Interpreting and Transliterating Assessment, Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or any other certification determined to be substantially similar to certification by the National Association of the Deaf or Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. by the department.

(3) ~~Failing failing to notify the department in writing within 30 days of being convicted of any crime by mail within 48 hours if convicted of a crime as required under s. SPS 4.09 (2).~~ Notice shall include a copy of the judgment of conviction and a copy of the complaint or other information which describes the nature of the crime and the judgment of conviction in order that the department may determine whether the circumstances of the crime of which the credential holder was convicted are substantially related to the practice of sign language interpreting.

Note: Required notice under this section should be mailed to Department of Safety and Professional Services, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, WI 53708.

(4) Violating the terms of any disciplinary order of the department.

(5) Disclosing any aspect of a confidential communication facilitated by the DSPS-licensed interpreter unless one of the following conditions apply:

(a) All parties to the confidential communication consent to the disclosure.

(b) A court determines that the disclosure is necessary for the proper administration of justice.

(c) Disclosure is necessary to comply with state or federal mandatory reporting requirements

(6) Failing to convey the content of communications accurately, using language most readily understood by consumers, accounting for their requests or needs regarding language preferences, and correcting errors discreetly and expeditiously.

(7) Failing to facilitate communication in a way that allows for meaningful and equitable access to communication that will support the full interaction and independence of consumers.

(8) Discriminating in the provision of services on the basis of the race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, or sexual orientation of any party to an interpreting situation.

(9) Providing services when not competent to do so due to physical, mental, or emotional incapacity.

(10) Providing services while the DSPS-licensed interpreter's ability to provide such services is impaired by alcohol or other drugs.

(11) Providing services which are inconsistent with the DSPS-licensed interpreter's skill levels or for which the DSPS-licensed interpreter is not qualified to perform services given the

language used, communication mode and setting, or consumer needs.

(12) Failing to monitor the accuracy of the message, and correct such message as necessary, while functioning as a team member.

(13) Failing to request deaf interpreters, when necessary to fully convey the message or to address exceptional communication challenges such as may arise from cognitive disabilities, emerging or limited language proficiency, lack of formal instruction or language, or the use of foreign sign language.

(14) Failing to obtain the consent of all parties to an interpreting situation before allowing an intern to observe or participate in an assignment.

(15) Performing services in situations that involve an actual or perceived conflict of interest unless there is disclosure to all participants and agreement to proceed regardless of the conflict of interest or perceived conflict of interest. DSPS-licensed interpreters may not proceed to perform services if the party for whom the services are being provided may not have the mental capacity to appreciate the actual or perceived conflict of interest.

(16) Performing services in a medical, mental health treatment, or legal setting for a minor family member or person under the interpreter's legal guardianship, if doing so would create a conflict of interest under sub. (15).

(17) Assuming dual or conflicting roles in interdisciplinary settings.

(18) Using confidential interpreted information for personal, monetary, or professional gain or for the benefit of professional affiliations or entities.

(19) Acting as an advocate while functioning as a DSPS-licensed interpreter or as an interpreting team member.

(20) Being convicted of any state or federal crime which substantially relates to the practice of sign language interpreting, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, Stats.

(21) Failing to maintain ethical business practices whether in private practice or as an employee of an agency or other entity.

(22) Failing to accurately represent the DSPS-licensed interpreter's qualifications, such as certification, education, and experience, failing to provide documentation of the DSPS-licensed interpreter's qualifications when requested, or failing to ensure that the DSPS-licensed interpreter's qualifications are accurately represented by any agencies or entities that contract for or schedule the DSPS-licensed interpreter's services.

(23) Engaging in any harassing, intimidating, or coercive business tactics.

(24) Failing to comply with continuing education requirements as mandated for its members by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., the National Association of the Deaf, or their successors, or any other certifying organization that the department determines to be substantially equivalent to the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., the National Association of the Deaf, or their successors.

(25) Failing to maintain a professional demeanor when working with consumers, colleagues, interns, or students.

(26) Failing to honor professional commitments or terminating assignments, unless fair and justifiable grounds exist.

(28) Failing to inform appropriate parties in a timely manner when delayed or unable to fulfill assignments —

Chapter SPS 202

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; STATE RESIDENCY EXEMPTION

~~SPS 202.01~~ Type of request.

~~SPS 202.02~~ Requirements for request.

~~**SPS 202.01 Type of request.** State residents may request an exemption from the sign language interpreter licensure requirement pursuant to s. 440.032 (2) (e) 2., Stats., for one of the following purposes:~~

~~(1) To provide services to a specific consumer. Unlicensed interpreters applying for a temporary or permanent exemption under this subsection shall demonstrate that the individual to whom services will be provided and for which the exemption is being requested cannot reasonably obtain services from an interpreter licensed under s. 440.032 (3), Stats., to meet his or her needs due to specific language requirements, cultural requirements, or physical, mental, or emotional conditions.~~

~~(2) To provide services for a specific period of time. Unlicensed interpreters applying for a temporary or permanent exemption under this subsection shall demonstrate that it is not possible to obtain a sign language interpreter licensed under s. 440.032 (3), Stats., and the existence of a need to provide sign language interpretation services.~~

~~History: CR 11-018; cr. Register September 2011 No. 669, eff. 10-1-11; (title) created under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 2., Stats., Register September 2011 No. 669.~~

~~**SPS 202.02 Requirements for request.** (1) Unlicensed interpreters requesting an exemption under either s. SPS 202.01 (1) or (2) shall submit a written request to the council stating the rationale for such request, and provide any documentation that supports the request.~~

~~(2) A request submitted pursuant to s. SPS 202.01 (1) shall specify all of the following:~~

~~(a) Information to support that the criteria stated in s. SPS 202.01 (1) has been met.~~

~~(b) The identity of the individual to whom services will be provided.~~

~~(c) The duration of the exemption being requested.~~

~~(d) The setting for which the exemption is requested.~~

~~(e) The unlicensed interpreter's educational and training background.~~

~~(f) Where, when, and from whom the unlicensed interpreter learned sign language.~~

~~(g) The unlicensed interpreter's knowledge of sign language and deaf culture.~~

~~(h) Any other special training or experience of the requestor in working with persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, or with persons with other disabilities.~~

~~(i) The unlicensed interpreter's experience with interpreting.~~

~~(j) The unlicensed interpreter's knowledge of the code of ethics for DSPS-licensed sign language interpreters.~~

~~(k) The unlicensed interpreter's relationship to and how long the unlicensed interpreter has known the consumer for whom services will be provided.~~

~~(L) Where, if applicable, the unlicensed interpreter is employed.~~

~~(3) A request submitted pursuant to s. SPS 202.01 (2) shall specify all of the following:~~

~~(a) Information to support that the criteria stated in s. SPS 202.01 (2) has been met.~~

~~(b) The identity of the consumer to whom services will be provided.~~

~~(c) The duration of the exemption being requested.~~

~~(d) The setting for which the exemption is requested.~~

~~(e) The unlicensed interpreter's educational and training background.~~

~~(f) Where, when, and from whom the unlicensed interpreter learned sign language.~~

~~(g) The unlicensed interpreter's knowledge of sign language and deaf culture.~~

~~(h) Any other special training or experience of the unlicensed interpreter in working with persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, or with persons with other disabilities.~~

~~(i) The unlicensed interpreter's experience with interpreting.~~

~~(j) The unlicensed interpreter's knowledge of the code of ethics for sign language interpreters.~~

~~(k) Where, if applicable, the unlicensed interpreter is employed.~~

~~(4) Documentation to support the request for exemption may include, if appropriate, any of the following:~~

~~(a) Letter of support from the individual receiving services or their legal guardian.~~

~~(b) Medical documentation for the individual receiving services.~~

~~(c) Letter of support from a teacher or other school personnel.~~

~~(5) The council may, in its discretion, request an appearance before the council by the unlicensed interpreter requesting the exemption to provide further information in support of the request.~~

~~(6) The council may not grant an exemption under s. SPS 202.01 for individuals who are waiting to take a test for the National Association for the Deaf, Inc., or for test results, or for certification by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, or for verification from the Wisconsin Interpreting and Translating Assessment, or for other certification or verification required for licensure under s. 440.032 (3), Stats.~~

CHAPTER SPS 202

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; LICENSURE EXEMPTIONS

SPS 202.01 Temporary Exemption from Licensure. An individual may apply for a temporary exemption from the sign language interpreter licensing requirements under s. 440.032 (3), Stats.

(1) An application for a temporary exemption shall include the following:

- (a) A written statement on a form provided by the department explaining why the applicant is unable to obtain a license under s. 440.032 (3), Stats.
- (b) Any relevant professional credentials held by the applicant.
- (c) The duration for which the applicant is seeking a temporary exemption to the licensure requirement.

(2) Requests for temporary exemptions are reviewed and approved by the department on a case by case basis in consultation with the committee.

SPS 202.02 Permanent Exemption from Licensure. An individual may apply for a permanent exemption from the sign language interpreter licensing requirements under s. 440.032 (3), Stats.

(1) An application for a permanent exemption shall include the following:

- (a) A written statement on a form provided by the department explaining why the applicant is unable to obtain a license under s. 440.032 (3), Stats.
- (b) If the applicant for a permanent exemption will be providing sign language interpretations services to a single client only, the individual's application shall identify that client.

(2) Requests for permanent exemptions are reviewed and approved by the department on a case by case basis in consultation with the committee.

SPS 202.03 Exemption for Certain Services or Settings. Licensure is not required to perform interpreting services if the circumstances of the interpreting services provided meet any of the following criteria enumerated in s. 440.032 (2) (b), Stats.:

- (1) An individual interpreting at any school or school-sponsored event if the individual is licensed by the department of public instruction as an educational interpreter.
- (2) An individual interpreting at a religious service or at a religious function, including educational or social events sponsored by a religious organization. This subdivision does not apply to an individual interpreting for a religious organization at a professional service provided or sponsored by the religious organization.
- (3) A support service provider interpreting for the purpose of facilitating communication between an individual who provides interpretation services and a client of the individual.
- (4) An individual who, in the course of the individual's employment, provides interpretation services during an emergency unless the interpretation services are provided during a period that exceeds 24 hours.

CHAPTER SPS 203

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; LICENSURE APPLICATIONS

SPS 203.01 Application for sign language interpreter—intermediate hearing license. The department shall issue a sign language interpreter—intermediate hearing license to an individual who submits all the following:

- (1) A completed application form.
- (2) The fee required under s. 440.03 (9) (a), Stats.
- (3) If the applicant has a pending charge or conviction record, all documentation necessary for the board to determine whether the circumstances substantially relate to the practice of sign language interpreting, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, Stats.
- (4) Documentary evidence of having met one of the following education and training requirements:
 - (a) Successful completion of each of the following:
 1. At least an associate degree in sign language interpretation, or an equivalent degree as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 2. Successful completion of an interpreter training program.
 3. Passage of the basic performance examination of and certification by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or its successor, or a substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 - (b) Successful completion of each of the following:
 1. An associate degree in sign language interpretation before July 19, 2019.
 2. Passage of the basic performance examination and certification by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or its successor, or passage of a substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 - (c) Passage of the basic performance examination and certification by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or its successor, or passage of a substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee, before July 19, 2019.

SPS 203.02 Application for a sign language interpreter— advanced hearing license. The department shall issue a sign language interpreter—advanced hearing license to an individual who submits all the following:

- (1) A completed application form.
- (2) The fee required under s. 440.03 (9) (a), Stats.
- (3) If the applicant has a pending charge or conviction record, all documentation necessary for the board to determine whether the circumstances substantially relate to the practice of sign language interpreting, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, Stats.
- (4) Documentary evidence of having met one of the following education and training requirements:
 - (a) Successful completion of each of the following:

1. At least an associate degree in sign language interpretation, or an equivalent degree as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 2. Successful completion of an interpreter training program.
 3. Passage of one of the following examinations:
 - a. The advanced or master performance examination of and is certified by the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, or its successor.
 - b. The examination for and holds the national interpreter certification issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor.
 - c. A substantially equivalent examination, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
- (b)** The applicant was issued before July 19, 2019, and maintains in good standing, any one of the following:
1. The national interpreter certification (NIC), advanced or master level national interpreter certification (NIC-Advanced or NIC-Master), certificate of interpretation (CI), certificate of transliteration (CT), comprehensive skills certificate (CSC), master comprehensive skills certificate (MCSC), interpretation certificate (IC), or transliteration certificate (TC), issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor.
 2. The National Association of the Deaf III, IV, or V certification.
 3. The advanced or master certification of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters or its successor.

SPS 203.03 Application for a sign language interpreter— intermediate deaf license. The department shall issue a sign language interpreter—intermediate deaf license to an individual who submits all the following:

- (1)** A completed application form.
- (2)** The fee required under s. 440.03 (9) (a), Stats.
- (3)** If the applicant has a pending charge or conviction record, all documentation necessary for the board to determine whether the circumstances substantially relate to the practice of sign language interpreting, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, Stats.
- (4)** Documentary evidence of having met all the following education and training requirements:
 - (a)** The applicant holds a high school diploma or its equivalent, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 - (b)** Successful completion of at least 40 hours of a deaf interpreter training curriculum approved by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 - (c)** Successful completion of at least 16 hours of sign language interpretation services-related training approved by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor or the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters or its successor, or substantially equivalent training, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
 - (d)** Successful completion of American sign language linguistics I and II or substantially equivalent coursework, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.
- (5)** Letters of recommendation from at least 2 individuals who hold a sign language interpreter—advanced deaf license, a certified deaf interpreter certification issued by the Registry of

Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor, or an equivalent certification, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee. Taken in the aggregate, the letters of recommendation shall verify that the applicant has successfully completed at least 25 hours of observing sign language interpretation services provided to clients.

SPS 203.04 Application for a sign language interpreter— advanced deaf license. The department shall issue a sign language interpreter—advanced deaf license to an individual who submits all the following:

- (1) A completed application form.
- (2) The fee required under s. 440.03 (9) (a), Stats.
- (3) If the applicant has a pending charge or conviction record, all documentation necessary for the board to determine whether the circumstances substantially relate to the practice of sign language interpreting, subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, Stats.
- (4) Documentary evidence of having met all the following education and training requirements:
 - (a) An associate degree or alternate education pathway approved by the department with advice from the committee.
 - (b) Certified deaf interpreter certification issued by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., or its successor or an equivalent certification, as determined by the department after receiving advice from the committee.

SPS 203.05 Reciprocal credentials for servicemembers, former servicemembers, and spouses. A reciprocal sign language interpreter credential shall be granted to a service member, former service member, or the spouse of a service member or former service member who the department determines meets all of the requirements under s. 440.09 (2), Stats. Subject to s. 440.09 (2m), Stats., the department may request verification necessary to make a determination under this subsection.

CHAPTER SPS 204

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; IDENTIFICATION CARDS--Optional

SPS 204.01 Identification card required. Interpreters licensed by the department must carry an identification card at all times while providing sign language interpretation services to clients for compensation.

SPS 204.02 Content and Format. The identification card referenced in s. SPS 204.01 shall include all the following information:

- (a) The interpreter's full name.
- (b) The interpreter's licensure category, and whether the interpreter is qualified under ch. SPS 205 to interpret in a mental health or legal setting, including color coding as follows:
 1. Intermediate hearing and deaf licenses shall be color-coded yellow.
 2. Advanced hearing and deaf licenses shall be color-coded green.
 3. A blue sticker if the individual is qualified under ch. SPS 205 to interpret in a mental health setting.
 4. A silver sticker if the individual is qualified under ch. SPS 205 to interpret in a legal setting.

(c) Any applicable licensure restriction.

(d) A statement whether the interpreter is authorized by the supreme court to act as a qualified interpreter in court proceedings under s. [885.38 \(2\)](#) and whether that authorization is provisional.

CHAPTER SPS 205

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS; SCOPE OF PRACTICE

SPS 205.01 Definitions. In this chapter:

(1) “Medical setting” means any interpretation situation involving involving the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of illness or injury, not including treatments designed to bring about rehabilitation of a mentally ill person.

(2) “Mental health treatment setting” means any interpretation situation involving psychological, educational, social, chemical, medical or somatic techniques designed to bring about rehabilitation of a mentally ill person.

(3) “Legal setting” means any interpretation situation involving the provision of legal services or which takes place within the courts of the State of Wisconsin.

(4) “Team interpreting” means the practice of using two or more interpreters who work together to provide interpretation for an individual with limited English proficiency, either due to a speech impairment, hearing loss, deafness, deaf-blindness, or other disability, so that the individual can adequately hear, understand, or communicate effectively in English.

SPS 205.02 Provision of services in a medical setting.

Only persons who meet one of the following criteria may provide sign language interpretation services in a medical setting:

(1) Holds a license under either ss. 440.032 (3) (d), (e), or (f), Stats.

(2) Holds a license under s. 440.032 (3) (c), Stats., and is team interpreting with a person licensed under either ss. 440.032 (3) (d) or (f), Stats.

SPS 205.03 Provision of services in a mental health treatment setting.

Only persons licensed under ss. 440.032 (3) (d) or (f), Stats. may provide sign language interpretation services in a mental health treatment setting.

SPS 205.04 Provision of services in a legal setting.

Only persons who meet both of the following criteria may provide sign language interpretation services in a legal setting:

(1) Holds a license under either ss. 440.032 (3) (d), (e), or (f), Stats.

(2) Is authorized by the supreme court to act as a qualified interpreter in court proceedings under s. 885.38 (2), Stats.

*****SPS 205.05 Any other restrictions the committee suggests adding**