

Mississippi Court Clerk's Guide For Locating a Court Interpreter For Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Cases

The Administrative Office of Courts (“AOC”) is the entity charged with qualifying foreign language interpreters for the State of Mississippi. The AOC website is frequently updated to include all pertinent information regarding the certification and availability of foreign language interpreters:

<https://courts.ms.gov/aoc/courtinterpreter/courtinterpreter.php>

Appointing an interpreter is a matter of judicial discretion. It is the responsibility of the court to determine whether a participant in a legal proceeding has a limited ability to understand and communicate in English. The LEP may consequently have a limited ability to read, write or understand English and cannot equally participate in or benefit from the proceedings unless an interpreter is available to assist the individual.

An interpreter should be appointed with the following preferences: (1) CERTIFIED; (2) REGISTERED; (3) NON-CREDENTIALLED. *Certified* interpreters have passed all examinations and criteria promulgated by the AOC for certification. *Registered* interpreters are waiting to take the oral performance examination. *Non-credentialed* interpreters have either not been tested or have not passed any exam.

A non-credentialed interpreter should only be appointed upon a finding that diligent, good faith efforts to obtain a certified or registered interpreter have been made and none has been found to be reasonably available. Be very careful when using non-credentialed interpreters. There is a high possibility of interpreting errors, unintentional or not, that can directly affect the outcome of the case.

There are numerous resources to guide you and your staff when dealing with LEP individuals. Some of these resources are listed below:

Limited English Proficiency: A Federal Interagency Website: <https://www.lep.gov/state-courts>

National Center for State Courts: <https://www.ncsc.org/consulting-and-research/areas-of-expertise/language-access>



For questions or concerns, contact:

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Language Identification Flashcard ✓

Arabic

أنا أتحدث اللغة العربية

Armenian

Ես խոսում եմ հայերեն

Bengali

আমি বাংলা কথা বলতে পারি।

Cambodian

ខ្ញុំនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ

Chamorro

Motka i kahhon ya yangin ûntûngnu' manaitai pat
ûntûngnu' kumentos Chamorro

Dinka

Rinp êkënë yic të yijam në thunjäy ye tök, ku kor raan
Bï yï geer thok.

Simplified Chinese 如果你能读中文或讲中文，请选择此框。

Traditional Chinese 如果你能讀中文或講中文，請選擇此框。

Croatian

Govorim hrvatski

Czech

Mluvím česky

Dutch

Ik spreek het Nederlands

English

I speak English

Language Identification Flashcard ✓

Farsi

من فارسی صحبت می کنم

French

Je parle français|

German

Ich spreche Deutsch|

Greek

Μιλώ τα ελληνικά

Haitian Creole

M pale kreyòl ayisyen

Hindi

मैं हिंदी बोलता हूँ ।

Hmong

Kuv has lug Moob

Hungarian

Beszélek magyarul|

Ilocano

Agsaonak ti Ilokano

Italian

Parlo italiano|

Japanese

私は日本語を話す

Korean

한국어 합니다

Language Identification Flashcard ✓

Laotian

ຂ້ອຍປາກພາສາລາວ

Polish

Mówię po polsku

Portuguese

Eu falo português do Brasil
(for Brazil)

Portuguese

Eu falo português de Portugal
(for Portugal)

Romanian

Vorbesc românește

Russian

Я говорю по-русски

Serbian

Ja govorim srpski

Slovak

Hovorím po slovensky

Spanish

Yo hablo español

Somali

Waxaan ku hadlaa af-Soomaali

Tagalog

Marunong akong mag-Tagalog

Thai

พูดภาษาไทย

Language Identification Flashcard ✓

Tongan

Maaka 'i he puha ni kapau 'oku ke lau
pe lea fakatonga

Ukrainian

Я розмовляю українською мовою

Urdu

میں اردو بولتا ہوں

Vietnamese

Tôi nói tiếng Việt

Yiddish

איך רעד יידיש

American Sign Language



I, ME



SIGN, SIGN LANGUAGE