

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Educational Interpreters for the Deaf and Categorical Aid

What is special education categorical aid?

The State of Kansas allocates money for the additional cost of special education services. One of the ways this categorical money is distributed is through reimbursement for districts for the “special teachers” providing special education services. This “special teacher” reimbursement is generally what is referred to as categorical aid. Other money that comes out of the state special education money is special education transportation, Medicaid reimbursement, and catastrophic aid. Those “qualified to provide special education or related services” are called “Professionals” in the program and those who are “qualified to assist in the provision of special education or related services” are called “Non-professionals” in the program.

What are the State requirements for Interpreters?

All interpreters working in Kansas must be registered with the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH). Only interpreters registered with KCDHH qualify for reimbursement. The KCDHH has a development plan for interpreters who cannot initially qualify for registration which may also be accepted for reimbursement.

May interpreters be claimed as paraeducators?

No, all interpreters must qualify as professionals.

Is a district allowed to have additional requirements for interpreters?

Yes. The Kansas State Department of Education does not set local school policy. The minimums discussed in this document are for districts to claim reimbursement only and are not binding in any other manner on districts or individuals.

For more information, contact:

Evelyn Alden
Special Education and Title Services.
evelyn.alden@ksde.gov.



Kansas State Department of Education
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212
www.ksde.gov

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