

The Sign Post

Newsletter for the Central California Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf



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Keeping Certification through CEUs & CMP

Kathy Yoshida, CSC, NAD V

Becoming certified is a huge milestone, but then the work of maintaining that certification begins. Once certified, you can only keep your certification by earning eight Continuing Education Units (CEUs) during your four year Certification Maintenance Program (CMP) cycle. Eight CEUs translates into 80 hours of workshops or other training, when you figure that one CEU equals 10 contact hours.

For some the task seems daunting. Once you understand the CMP and the many ways you can earn CEUs, certification maintenance will become a natural part of your professional development.

Every certified interpreter must join the CMP. In

addition, all participants in the CMP must work with an RID-Approved Sponsor to earn CEU credits. A list of RID-Approved Sponsors is available on the RID website at www.rid.org/education/continuing_education.

There are four ways an interpreter can earn CEUs. The chart below was developed by RID and gives an overview of each of these activities (the original can be found at the link listed above). Earning CEUs is not difficult IF you plan ahead. The eight CEUs you need to complete the CMP cycle are not going to show up on your transcript without some work on your part. The bottom line is that it only take a little bit of planning for any interpreter to successfully earn CEUs.

Method	Examples	Important Notes
Sponsor Initiated Activities	short courses, workshops, seminars, conferences, telconferences, and distance learning (e.g. continuing education publications, teleconferences, multi media instruction materials, and programmed learning materials).	These are events that are offered and organized by an RID CMP Approved Sponsor [such as most CCRID workshops]. It is important to know your RID Member # when you attend these activities so your CEUs are properly credited to your transcript.
Participant Initiated Non-RID Activity (PINRA)	auditing a college course, non-credit courses at an educational institution, corporate trainings, community education, school district in-service and organizational conventions/workshops.	These events are not offered or organized by an RID CMP Approved Sponsor. You must contact an RID CMP Approved Sponsor BEFORE attending the event to earn CEUs.
Academic Coursework	courses taken from an accredited institution during the participant's current cycle in which the participant receives a minimum letter grade of C (2.0).	CEUs for academic coursework can be credited after you have begun or completed the course but must be within your current cycle. Contact an RID CMP Approved Sponsor to process these CEUs. Academic credit is converted on the basis of 1-quarter credit hour equaling 10 contact hours (1 CEU) and 1 semester credit hour equaling 15 contact hours (1.5 CEUs).
Independent Study	research, initial curriculum development, study groups, independent reading, mentoring and the preparation of scientific/clinical materials for publication.	You MUST apply for and receive approval from an RID CMP Approved Sponsor BEFORE STARTING THE ACTIVITY. Not all RID CMP Approved Sponsors are approved to process Independent Studies so please check with your sponsor first. Independent Study Activities are limited to 2.0 CEUs per Independent Study Plan.

**Honoring Tradition
Embracing Change
Celebrating Growth**

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Leadership Meetings are open to all CCRID members. See the calendar at our website for date, time and place. Contact ccrid@ccrid.org with any questions regarding meetings. The Sign Post is prepared quarterly. Please send ideas, items or information for announcements to newsletter editor Shannon M. Simonelli at ccrid@ccrid.org one month prior to publication date.

Workshop: Getting to The Heart of the Matter

Pamela Warkentin, CSC, SC:L, NAD V
Amy Hall-McLaughlin, NAD V

Interpreting is a field that is diverse in the types of assignments, consumers, and settings as well as the demands and controls that each person brings to a given job. The diversity and variety can be a source of great satisfaction, yet it can also be a source of challenge as we strive to do our best and meet the communication needs of our consumers, both hearing and Deaf! We often find ourselves adapting to the ever changing demands.

In spite of the various demands there are some constants

that are critical to every interpreting job. These are some of the things that we have begun to take a closer look at and want to share with others, which is why we developed this workshop: *Achieving Message Equivalence: The Heart of the Message* (see enclosed flier or visit www.ccrd.org for more information).

There are times we walk away from an assignment and say to ourselves “That really worked!” There are other times when we have completed an assignment and wondered “What was missing?” Although experience is valuable it does not guarantee

effective interpreting every time. Effective interpreting requires much more than an exchange of signed and spoken vocabulary! This workshop will address achieving message equivalence and what gives an interpreted message life or meaning. We will explore the various aspects which impact effective interpretations through discussion and various activities.

If this is something you have experienced or want to know more about, please come and join us at the workshop on May 1. Share your “aha!” moments as well as those that still confound you. Bring your thoughts and your experiences and together lets find the heart of the message.



The following excerpt is from “Great Interpreters Don’t Grow on Trees: 123 Steps to the Top of the Sign Language Interpreting Field” by Kelley C. Clark

CHALLENGE

Consider the ASL gloss for N.G. COMMUNICATION, in C O M M U N I C A T E / COMMUNICATION. What does a self-identified, culturally Deaf person really mean when they sign that concept? Consider the following common scenario: A hearing clinician with limited exposure to deafness is working with a Deaf person. The clinician says, “You want to have an intimate relationship, so why can’t you write notes back and forth if the other person can’t sign?” The Deaf person responds with, COMMUNICATION + IMPORTANT. PAPER +



this instance, means so much more than the way it is used in the following interpretation, “Communication is important and paper is not good.” Meet or call a peer, deaf or hearing, and discuss possible interpretations. [Some Deaf] suggest interpreters consider such issues as equality and English fluency. Your goal is to make what might appear implicit become explicit by finding a better, more complete interpretation.

What would you do in each situation?

Discuss the conflicts, decisions you would make, and the possible long and short term outcomes. *Scenarios are from “Encounters with Reality” by Brenda E. Cartwright.*

- You’re an interpreter for a relay service (telephone) and one of the [other interpreters] calls you over to interpret what the Deaf caller is trying to say. You read the message on the screen, and it looks to you like an illegal drug deal is going down.
- You are asked to interpret a debate at your town meeting and are offered \$200 an hour. The catch is that you’ve never interpreted a debate, and this one concerns an extremely controversial issue. You figure the talk will be flying fast and furious.
- You sit with your mentor at an educational interpreters’ workshop. She has been your idol since you were an ITP student. She has always been there for you. Today, however, you think she’s being petty and unkind as she gossips about the other interpreters in the room. You can’t decide if she was always like this and you just never noticed or if she’s just having a bad day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stepping Up

CCRID Members who have passed an interpreting assessment or certification test:

- Cynthia Ruiz, EIPA



All names included with expressed permission.

EVENTS

April

10, 9am—11am, Terp Time, Professional Development; *Practice with Eye Gaze & Blinks* DHHSC- Fresno

11, Leadership Meeting Suzanne Conway’s residence, Fresno email ccrid@ccrid.org for directions

May

1, 9 am –4 pm *Achieving Message*

Equivalence: The Heart of Interpreting, DHHSC-Fresno

16, 2pm—4pm, Leadership Meeting; Suzanne Conway’s residence, Fresno email ccrid@ccrid.org for directions

June-July

CCRID will be on hiatus—watch for workshops starting again at the end of August!

For details and event fliers go to the calendar listed at www.ccrd.org