

Application Requirements

Please read carefully:

The candidate shall:

- a) Be an active member of Sign Language Institute Canada (SLIC).
- b) Submit certified proof of ASL Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) with score of 4 and above.
- c) Have taught ASL to student for a minimum of 400 hours of documented instruction within a three-year period.
- d) Consider ASL his/her first language and have proficiency in ASL; rated at ASLPI of 4 or above.
- e) Be an active member of a provincial cultural society of the Deaf (if there is no cultural society in your province, an active member of a provincial organization of the Deaf or provincial organization) and have a letter of reference from an executive of a provincial cultural society of the Deaf and one letter vouching for his/her good standing from an administrator in a recognized program* where s/he has worked.
- f) Attach a list of attended/taken ASL or ASL-related workshops and courses** in a recognized program or under the direction of a recognized organization of the Deaf in the past 5 years.

For those who need to retake their evaluation, they will have a minimum of three years to complete the evaluation.

* A recognized program is defined as follows:

A recognized program of ASL instruction is one that is affiliated with a public or private agency, an educational institution or a continuing education program which has a supervisor or coordinator for ASL courses.

** Related courses are those pertaining to ASL, language teaching principles, Deaf culture, Deaf Studies and/or heritage, classroom management, teaching strategies, lesson planning, adult education, or curriculum.

Sign Language Instructors Canada

Evaluation Procedures for ASL Instructors



A program of the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf Inc.

Introduction

In recently years, American Sign Language (ASL) has become one of the most popular courses offered at many community colleges and adult education agencies in Canada. Deaf people and hearing people, such as friends, relatives, and parents of Deaf children, professionals working with the Deaf, fellow employees of the Deaf, employers of the Deaf, civic officers, and many others have become fascinated with ASL and wish to take courses.

Most instructors of ASL have been, and in many cases still are, teaching signs at their own pace, in their own format, without supervision. They have never been sure which ASL textbooks to use, how to screen students, what levels to teach, how to evaluate, where to get materials, etc. Are they teaching ASL or basic signs? If an instructor just shows signs from a book, he/she is not teaching ASL but vocabulary. Students who have been taught in this manner have continually failed to meet the expectations of the Deaf Community for good signers. They end up knowing vocabulary but are unable to utilize the most important linguistic features of ASL. Today institutions like community colleges and other agencies are looking for qualified ASL instructors and they have brought their concerns to the attention of the Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf.

Since ASL has become widely recognized as a language in its own right, used by Deaf people in Canada and the United States, methods of teaching ASL have changed considerably. SLIC was established in 1981 to develop the national certification process for Sign Language Instructors/Teachers. In 2017, SLIC is remanded Sign Language Institute Canada. The organization will help ASL instructors across the nation become familiar with standard teaching methods and materials, and will provide a networking system.

Purpose

The purpose of this evaluation is to evaluate and to certify ASL Instructors.

Objectives

- Recognize quality and standard of ASL instruction
- Provide training and workshops
- Increase credibility and improve public relations
- Share information related to the profession

Registered Charitable Number:

11883 0702 RR0001

Five Steps to Certification:

Step 1: Initial Application

The potential candidates send their resume or curriculum vitae (CV) by email to SLIC headquarter by the last Friday of January along with a payment of \$220.00. The application package must also contain letters from an organization of the Deaf and institutions, record of teaching hours and workshops taken or presented. Applications arriving late will not be considered. If your application for evaluation is denied, we will refund you \$220.00 minus a \$50 for processing applications.

Step 2: Evaluation Manual

Upon being accepted for evaluation, candidates will be sent a candidate's manual outlining the evaluation procedures at the beginning of March. We will give candidates at least 5 months to prepare before taking the on-line evaluation. *You are required to submit certified proof of ASLPI rating before taking subset #1. (this is only temporary)** The candidates will be contacted in August to prepare for the testing.

Step 3: Testing

A) Subtest #1:

Structure of ASL (Multiple choice with video). If a candidate has failed the subtest and wishes to re-take, there is an \$80.00 charge. If pass, go to Subtest #2 right after Subtest #1. If fail, retake in September.

B) Subtest #2:

General Knowledge—questions based on required reading and video viewings. If a candidate has failed the subtest and wishes to re-take, there is an \$80.00 charge.

C) Subtest #3: (late October or early November)

Interview— The interview is conducted through video-conferencing. The candidate will be interviewed by raters. There is an \$185.00 charge if fail, retake Subtest #3 in the following or next year.

Step 4: Certification

A certificate will be sent to successful candidates. This document will certify that the candidate has met the requirements and is qualified to teach ASL.

Required Readings

1. American Sign Language—A Teacher's Resource Text on Curriculum, Methods, and Evaluation (by Dennis Cokely and Charlotte Baker-Shenk)
2. American Sign Language—A Teacher's Resource Text on Grammar and Culture (Dennis Cokely and Charlotte Baker-Shenk)
3. Sign Naturally Units 1-6: Teacher's Curriculum guide (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
4. Sign Naturally Units 1-6: Student Workbook (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
5. Sign Naturally Units 7-12 Teacher's Curriculum guide (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
6. Sign Naturally Units 7-12 Student Workbook (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
7. Master ASL! Level 1 (by Jason e. Zinza)
8. Learning to See: Teaching ASL as a Second Lan-guage (by Sherman Wilcox)
9. Linguistics of ASL: An Introduction (by Clayton Valli, Ceil Lucas, Kristin Mulrooney, & Miako Villanueva)
10. Introduction to American Deaf Culture (by Thomas Holcomb)
11. Deaf Heritage in Canada: A distinctive, diverse, and Enduring Culture (by Clifton F. Carbin)

Required Viewings (DVDs)

1. American Sign Language—A Teacher's Resource Text on Curriculum, Methods, and Evaluation (by Dennis Cokely and Charlotte Baker-Shenk)
2. Introduction to American Deaf Culture (by MJ Bienvenu and Betty Colonomos) Five Series
3. Signing Naturally Units 1-6: Teacher's Curriculum Guide (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
4. Signing Naturally Units 1-6: Student Workbook (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
5. Signing Naturally Units 7-12: Teacher's Curriculum Guide (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
6. Signing Naturally Units 7-12: Student Workbook (by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz & Ken Mikos)
7. Linguistics of American Sign Language—5th Edition (by Clayton Valli, Ceil Lucas, Kirstin Mulrone y & Miako Villanueva)
8. See What I mean: Differences between Deaf and Hearing Cultures (by Thomas K. Holcomb & Anna Mindess)
9. The HeART of Deaf Culture (by Rochester Institute of Technology)

On a final note:

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) and Common European Framework Reference (CEFR) are highly recommended tools for the instructors to be familiar with. In the near future, those will be part of the requirements for the application of Sign Language Instructors of Canada Evaluation. Trainings will be announced when ready.

Have questions?

Please contact Vincent Chauvet, SLIC Chair at slice@slicanada.ca for general enquires and application questions.

Please email your resume or curriculum vitae (CV) to the Head Office at info@slicanada.ca with your preferred email address for correspondence and evaluation.

Two payment options:

- Provide your credit card info to Victoria Meusel, Admin. Assistant at info@slicanada.ca via video, e.g., Skype/FaceTime/Zoom
- e-transfer payments to info@slicanada.ca

For SLIC membership information, contact Gary Malkowski, Director, Sign Language Institute Canada at gmalkowski@slicanada.ca

For SLIC membership application and payment, register in this website: <https://slicanada.ca/slic-membership>