

CAREERS FOR

Signed Language Interpreting

MAJORS

Language Interpreting is the practice of accurately conveying messages between two different languages. A Sign Language Interpreter is able effectively facilitate communication between Deaf and hard of hearing people and those who are hearing.

[UNM's Signed Language Interpreting program](#) looks for students who have interest in the culture of the Deaf community and the communication needs of the Deaf and hard of hearing. The program also focuses on the dynamic process of both language and culture and promotes cultural and linguistic diversity. Students will develop competencies in both American Sign Language (ASL) and English. UNM's Signed Language Interpreting program accepts approximately 15 students per year into their program.

Licensure and Certification is required in most states. [New Mexico's Certification and Licensure Process.](#)

There are many [professional development oppotinunites](#) throughout the year in New Mexico for signed language interpreters.

Industries & Target Employers

Sign Language Interpreters can work for an agency or can do independent contracting. ASL interpreters are needed in various settings including:

- Schools: K-12, college
- Government
- Religious and volunteer organizations
- Law enforcement agencies
- Hearing and Speech agencies
- Hospitals and doctor's offices
- Mental health facilities
- Legal Settings
- Public Health

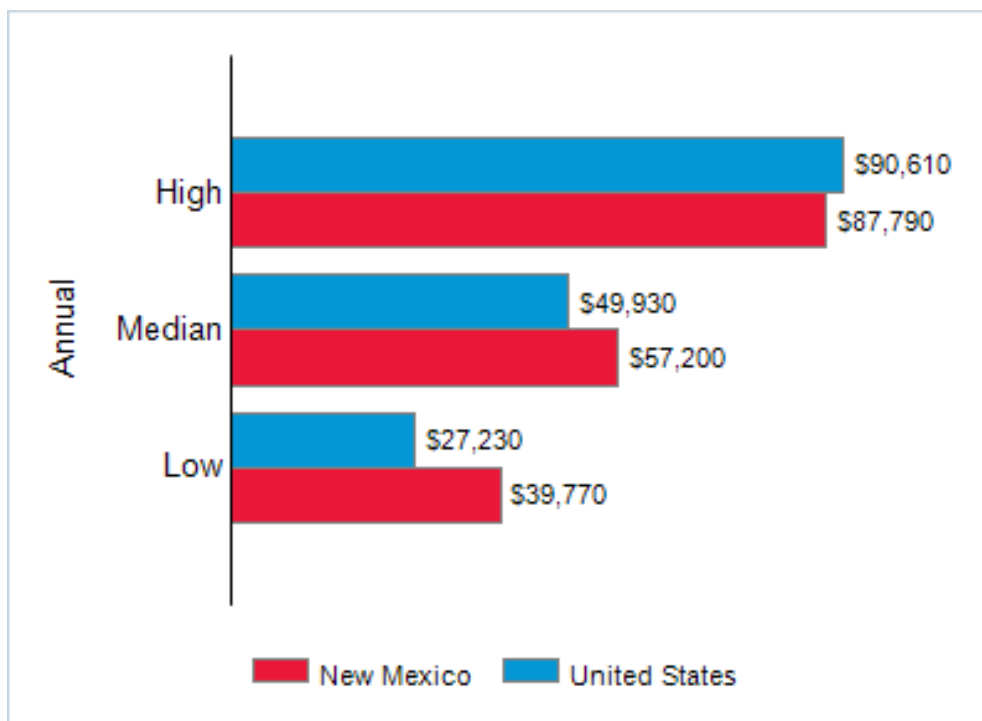
Note: Working in mental health, medical, and legal settings will require additional training, passing a national exam, and advanced experience.

Top Companies

[New Mexico School for the Deaf](#)
[Albuquerque Sign Language Academy](#)
[Sorenson Communications](#)
[Soliant Health](#)
[ProCare Therapy](#)

Salary Information

[Interpreters and Translators](#)



Tips

- Admission to the Signed Language Interpreting Program is competitive and by application.
- Students are permitted a maximum of two attempts to apply and interview for acceptance to the major in Signed Language Interpreting.
- Conduct [informational interviews](#) with professionals who are practicing SLP's to get a first hand account of what it is like to work in the profession and [job shadow](#) to see if it is a fit for you.
- Other related jobs that can utilize the skills from Signed Language Interpreting include: Speech Language Pathologist, Psychologist, Counselor, Social Worker, and Audiologist. Note: these all require graduate school to obtain.

Learn More

[American Translators Association](#)
[American Literary Translators Association](#)
[Deaf Culture Center of New Mexico](#)
[National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators](#)
[Registry for Interpreters for the Deaf](#)
[American Sign Language Services, INC](#)
[World of Sign Language Interpreters](#)
[National Association for the Deaf](#)
[New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#)
[Register for Handshake: Jobs for Lobos](#)
[O*NET; Interpreters and Translators](#)
[Occupational Outlook Handbook; Interpreters and Translators](#)
[Buzzfile Employers by Major; American Sign Language](#)

Questions?

Visit UNM Career Services! Email onlinecareerservices@unm.edu or call 277-2531 to schedule an appointment.