New York State Department of Labor

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Workforce Development System Technical Advisory #17-02.2 January 31, 2022

To: Workforce Development Community

Subject: Language Interpretation Services Available at Career Centers

Purpose

Communicate guidance to all Workforce Development System partners to ensure that customers who are not proficient in English and/or those with hearing impairments receive, free of charge, the language assistance necessary to afford them meaningful access to effectively participate in and benefit from all Career Center programs, services, and information.

POLICY

All Limited English Proficiency (LEP) individuals and/or those with hearing impairments entering a New York State One-Stop Career Center will receive the language assistance necessary to afford them meaningful access to all programs, services, and information.

ACTION

Local One-Stop Career Center staff must take reasonable steps to ensure that all LEP and/or hearing impaired individuals have access to all programs, services and information available to them. This includes providing access to the following Language Access services available to One-Stop Career Center customers:

- Over the Phone Interpretation no appointment necessary;
- Video Remote Interpretation (VRI);
- In-person interpreters (including spoken language and sign language) by appointment; and
- Written translation services.

Each One-Stop Career Center received instructions on how to access and utilize contracted vendors to provide interpreting services when needed. If interpreting vendor changes occur, One-Stop Career Centers will receive updates via email.



REFERENCES

Executive Order 26.1: Statewide Language Access Policy

Section 601 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Section 188 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014

Language Services One-Stop Operating System (OSOS) <u>Guide</u> (for instructions on documenting customer LEP and other language access needs and services)

Language Identification Tool

Sign Language Interpretation Poster

INQUIRIES

Inquiries regarding this Technical Advisory may be directed to: dews.reemploy@labor.ny.gov.



