

The Independent Registration Panel

IRP

for
British Sign Language/English Interpreters

FACTSHEET

Following the IRP meeting on 16 July 2007

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1. Registration of Interpreters

Update on Number of Registrations 2007 – 2008

The number of interpreters registered from April 2007 is as follows:

Members of the Register (MRSLI)	=	325
Trainee Interpreters (TI)	=	57
Junior Trainee Interpreters (JTI)	=	89
Total number of registered interpreters	=	471

At its recent meeting, the Ratification Committee considered **80** applications for registration or upgrading between categories for 1 September 2007 registration. We are still awaiting documentary evidence from some applicants as this Factsheet goes to print.

We anticipate that the number of interpreters in the three categories of registration on 1 September 2007 will be **over 500**, again this will be the highest number of registered interpreters ever. This will include **over 350** MRSLIs – also the highest number ever.

2. Applications for 1 January 2008 Registration

Please note that the deadline for applications for 1 January 2008 registration is:

31 October 2007

The closing date for submitting supporting evidence is the same as for applications. Only applications (with supporting evidence) received by 31 October 2007 can be considered for January registration as the Ratification Committee meeting will take place at the beginning of November.

Please ensure that:

- you have Professional Indemnity Insurance in place when you submit your application;
- you allow sufficient time to obtain CRB Enhanced Disclosure.

If you are awaiting results which will be verified by 1 January 2008, please submit your application form by the deadline with all other supporting information. Your application will be ratified conditionally subject to receiving confirmation of results by 1 January 2008.

For JTIs please remember that you must be undertaking a recognised Interpreter Training Programme by the deadline (i.e. 31 October 2007) to be eligible to apply in this category for January 2008.

3. New Developments for Trainee and Junior Trainee Interpreters

Trainee Interpreters (TI)

From September 2007, approved NVQ centres were informed that they will be required to register NVQ candidates with CACDP as soon as they are enrolled on their learning programme.

In view of the above, and in order to maintain the standard for registration as a TI, with effect from **1 January 2008**, the Independent Registration Panel (IRP) has amended the **evidence required** to demonstrate eligibility to register as a TI. From that date, the IRP will require a centre to complete a form confirming that the person applying to register as a TI has **started to collect evidence for all interpreting units**. The form will need to be returned with the registration application form for consideration by the IRP's Ratification Committee.

Junior Trainee Interpreters (JTI)

As mentioned in the April 2007 Factsheet, you were informed of the proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for **NEW** JTIs from 1 April 2008. The full details will appear in the 2008-09 Routes to Registration document.

4. Complaints and Appeals

There are three formal complaints about registered interpreters being considered at the present time, all of which have been deemed to have a case to answer. One case has now been considered at a recent Complaints and Disciplinary Committee meeting and the complaint was upheld. Complaints meetings will take place in the near future to consider the remaining two cases.

5. Update on the Registration System

An initial meeting has taken place between representatives of CACDP, the IRP and ASLI to discuss ways forward for registration, and investigate alternative ways of achieving a greater degree of independent governance for the register(s).

A copy of the report of the meeting is on the CACDP website: www.cacdp.org.uk on the LSP Registration Page/Registration/Registration News. Please do respond to this outline proposal via your IRP representatives or directly to Cathy Barnes at CACDP (cathyb@cacdp.org.uk).

6. Membership of the IRP at 16 July 2007

Agencies/Employers	Donna Rubin Vacancy
Deaf Consumers	Shirley Farthing (Vice-chair) Ilan Dwek Lesley Kiddell-Spencer Eva Fielding-Jackson
Interpreters (ASLI)	Trudy Field (Chair) Liz Mercer Chris Stone
Training Providers/Assessment Centres	Helen Fuller Frank Harrington
External Examiners/Verifiers	Roger Beeson Christine Foster
Non-voting – Co-opted CACDP	Philip Gerrard Cathy Barnes
Administrator – Angela Nunn Registrar – Christine Wagstaff	

The IRP are pleased to announce that the two vacancies for **Deaf Consumers** on the Panel have now been filled. The two new members representing the BDA/Sign Community are Lesley Kiddell-Spencer and Eva Fielding-Jackson.

There is currently one vacancy on the IRP in the **Agencies/Employers** category. If you know of anyone who is interested in joining the IRP in this capacity, please contact Angela Nunn (administration@independentregistrationpanel.org.uk) for more details.

As from October 2007, there will also be a vacancy for a representative of **External Verifiers of the NVQ in Interpreting (BSL/English)**. If you are, or know someone who is, an MRSLI and an external verifier (EV) of the NVQ in Interpreting (BSL/English), and would like to be nominated for the IRP, please contact Angela Nunn (administration@independentregistrationpanel.org.uk) for more details. However, an MRSLI who is not an EV but has NVQ verification experience, or good knowledge of NVQs, interested in working alongside a CACDP EV to provide the essential combined expertise would be considered.

7. Access to the Online Directory

As entries in the online directory are now free for any registered interpreters requesting their contact details to be included, interpreters with full entries are no longer issued with a complimentary password and username to the directory. However, all registered LSPs can subscribe to the full online directory **for their personal use** for a special subscription fee of £30.

The open pages on the website are accessible to anyone who simply wants to check the registration status of an interpreter. You can check the status of an interpreter by going to the current CACDP website: www.cacdp.org.uk and clicking on the LSP Registration page/The Directory. Click on the box on the left hand side of the screen entitled "Language Service Professional Name and Status", select the registration category required in the drop down box, e.g. "Member of the Register of BSL/English Interpreters", press search and an alphabetical listing of anyone currently registered in that category will appear. The CACDP website is being re-designed in the next few weeks. Details of how to check the registration status of an interpreter on the new website will be made available in the next Factsheet.

8. November 2007 Meeting

The next IRP meeting will take place in November 2007. If you want to comment on any of the above issues or raise others, please contact your representative on the IRP or the IRP Registrar at the address on the front page of this Factsheet.