

REGISTRATION AND QUALIFICATIONS NEWSLETTER

MAY 2006

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This newsletter is distributed to:

- Registered BSL/English Interpreters, Deafblind Interpreters (Manual), Lipspeakers and Speech to Text Reporters;
- Approved NVQ Assessment Centres;
- The Independent Registration Panel;
- The Registration Panel for Speech to Text Reporters, Deafblind Interpreters (Manual) and Lipspeakers;
- The Consortium of Interpreter Training and Assessment Providers.

Editor

Rosie Addis, CACDP Qualifications Officer – BSL/English Interpreting

1. General Information

The number of Language Service Professionals (LSPs) registered from April 2006 is as follows:

Category	April 2006
Member of the Register of BSL/English Interpreters	270
Trainee Interpreter (BSL/English)	46
Junior Trainee Interpreter (BSL/English)	61
Member of the Register of Deafblind Interpreters (Manual)	31
Member of the Register of Speech to Text Reporters	18
Member of the Register of Level 3 Lipspeakers	30
Registered Level 2 Lipspeakers	19

The CACDP database has now been updated with details of all new LSPs and those who have renewed their registration from 1 April 2006.

Once again, we would like to thank everyone who met the deadline for registration and supplied all of the necessary evidence within the closing date.

The following points were noted during the registration process:

- Photographs of all shapes and sizes, types, colours and quality were sent in with applications. An outside company now processes the ID badges and the photographs are digitally printed onto the badges. In future, please send in **two colour photographs of passport size, standard and type (i.e. close-up of head and shoulders)**.
- Please note the application fee of £25 is only needed once for each category of registration. If you are renewing your application in the same category you do **not** pay an application fee a second time. If you are moving to a new category an application fee is required.
- Evidence of Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) Enhanced Disclosure must be less than three years old for registration purposes. If evidence is provided other than the CRB Enhanced Disclosure Certificate, then this must state the date of when the disclosure was carried out.
- A number of incorrect titles have been used for the training programmes candidates are undertaking or have completed. Please ensure that the titles used match the titles on the application form.
- For BSL/English Interpreters the RJTI and RTI forms are working well and the information supplied on progression is very useful.
- It is the responsibility of the individual LSP to ensure that their Professional Indemnity Insurance covers them for all assignments they undertake and that it is valid for the full registration period. If Professional Indemnity Insurance runs out before the start of the registration period, i.e. before 1 April 2006, please ensure a copy of the up to date information is sent in as soon as it is available to allow registration to be completed.
- The Declaration section of the application form was not always completed, resulting in a lot of time and effort being spent chasing up the missing information. Applicants really do need to take the time to tick all of the declaration boxes and sign the form, and cannot be registered until this section is complete.

- Please be aware that the name, registration status and information on whether an LSP has Professional Indemnity Insurance and CRB Enhanced Disclosure will appear on the open register.
- Some concerns were expressed about the section on the application form/Directory entry form which states, "I understand the information I have provided may be used in connection with CACDP's assessments, awarding and registration processes, charitable activities, products, services and events. CACDP will not disclose this information to any other person or organisation, except in connection with the above purposes. CACDP's Data Protection Statement is available from the CACDP website (www.cacdp.org.uk) or by contacting CACDP's Head Office." This is CACDP's general data protection statement. Information received from LSPs is not passed on to anyone other than people who subscribe to the online Directory who will obviously have access to the details the LSP has asked to be included. As part of the registration package all registered LSPs will be sent the Registration and Qualifications Newsletter and BSL/English Interpreters, the Registration and Qualifications Newsletter and the IRP Factsheet.
- If you wish to upgrade your registration from one category to another during the registration year, this can be done at the next available registration date, i.e. for 2006-2007, on 1 September 2006 (closing date 31 July 2006) or 1 January 2007 (closing date 31 October 2006). You would need to complete another registration application form with details of the new registration category and return with supporting information, two photographs and payment (including application fee of £25 and the appropriate upgrade registration fee). Your completed application would be considered by the relevant Ratification Committee and you would be informed of their decision by the registration date.

Changes to Contact Details

Please remember to send any updates on changes to registration or advertising details as soon as they occur. These should be sent to Angela Nunn (angelan@cacdp.org.uk) who, wherever possible, will update the Online Directory overnight.

2. Questionnaire

A questionnaire was sent out with the February 2006 newsletter to find out how many people would prefer to receive the newsletter as a pdf attachment by email. Of the 500 questionnaires sent out, 105 replies were received. Of these, 47 people said they would prefer to have information sent by email while 58 said they would prefer to have it posted. Future copies of the newsletter will be emailed to those people who stated that they would prefer to have it sent by that method. If anyone else would prefer to have it emailed but just did not reply in time, please let Angela Nunn (angelan@cacdp.org.uk) know and she will organise this for you.

3. Registration Panel for LSPs (non BSL/English Interpreters)

As reported in the last newsletter, a Registration Panel has now been formed for Speech to Text Reporters, Lipspeakers, and Deafblind Interpreters (Manual). Its role is to ratify applications from LSPs, discuss ethical issues and when needed, members from this panel form a Complaints and Disciplinary Committee. The first meeting of the Registration Panel will take place in August. Members have come from the former Qualifications Committees. If you would like further information please contact Suzie Maine (suziem@cacdp.org.uk).

4. Unitisation of CACDP Qualifications

The updated suite of qualifications, and the combinations of units that make up these, are almost ready for submission for accreditation by QCA. The consultation has now finished and assessment procedures are being finalised as this newsletter goes to press. There will be a dissemination event on 5 May 2006, to which members of the Unitisation Advisory Panel have been invited. Shortly after this date, the structure and contents of the full portfolio of qualifications will be released to the public.

A key driver in revising CACDP's qualifications, especially at the higher levels, has been the need to ensure that there is scope for progression for potential new LSPs to become qualified. As reported in the last newsletter, there will also be units which current LSPs may find interesting and which may fulfil their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) goals or requirements.

Unitisation has been an excellent opportunity to review, revise and update the current suite of CACDP accredited qualifications. In order to ensure that the revised suite of qualifications provided an up-to-date and coherent progression route for learners, CACDP withdrew a submission to QCA for accreditation of the current Level 4 Certificate in Deafblind Interpreting (Manual). The knowledge, skills, competences and professional practice required of Deafblind Interpreters (Manual) have been covered by the new qualifications and units in the deafblind group of awards.

Anyone who holds the current Level 4 Certificate in Deafblind Interpreting (Manual) will continue to be recognised and eligible for registration for 2006/2007.

5. ACE Campaign

The Access to Communication in English (ACE) campaign is co-ordinated by the UK Council on Deafness to campaign for better services for deaf people who rely on access to communication in English and funded by the Department of Work and Pensions. Originally a one-year project, started in 2004, it was extended as the consortium felt more could be done to achieve a successful outcome. The final report is due to be submitted to DWP in September 2006. CACDP has been contributing to this along with the RNID, Hearing Concern, Cued Speech Association, Sense, LINK centre for deafened people, the National Association of Deafened People (NADP), Association of Verbatim Speech to Text Reporters (AVSTTR) and the Association of Lipspeakers (ALS).

The campaign has three aims:

- To increase the supply of LSPs such as Lipspeakers, Speech to Text Reporters and Notetakers.
- To provide guidance to service providers on their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act.
- To advise deaf people of their rights to communication support.

The consortium has published two glossy leaflets entitled "Your Duties under the DDA" and "Careers as a Language Service Professional".

The leaflets can be downloaded from the CACDP website (www.cacdp.org.uk) under Information/What's New section.

Do look these up and let your friends and colleagues know.

6. Agency Steering Group

The Agency Steering Group (ASG) was established in January 2004 following the agencies conference. The ASG was tasked with the responsibility of establishing minimum standards of service for agencies providing communication support services for deaf/hard of hearing/hearing service users.

The standards have now been finalised. These represent a set of working practices that all agencies should aim to implement to allow people who book LSPs through an agency to know what level of service they can expect. At the present time the standards are voluntary. However, organisations involved in the ASG are encouraging communication agencies to sign up to the initiative.

To mark the launch of the new standards, the ASG are producing a DVD which will be presented in British Sign Language with subtitles. This outlines the standards and explains to consumers what they should expect from a Communication Agency.

A copy of the standards, the DVD and further information can be obtained by contacting the ASG by email on agencysteeringgroup@hotmail.com.

7. Revised National Interpreting Standards

The National Occupational Standards, which define competence for interpreters, are owned by CILT (The National Centre for Languages). CILT has spent the past year revising these standards and CACDP was involved in this process. At the time of writing, the new standards have been submitted by CILT to the UK Co-ordinating Group, but have not yet been finally approved. They will be posted at <http://www.cilt.org.uk/standards/nsireview.htm> when this has happened.

CACDP Level 4 NVQ in Interpreting (BSL/English) uses the National Interpreting Standards as its basis, and so a change in the standards will necessitate a revision of the NVQ. Preparatory work has been carried out, and once approval of the new qualification is received from CILT, it will be submitted for accreditation by the QCA. It is hoped that the revised NVQ will be available for use by centres from September 2006.

Centres can be reassured that there are few major changes to the National Interpreting Standards, and therefore the NVQ in Interpreting will remain relatively unchanged. The following summarises the major changes:

- The BSL Units at Level 4 will no longer be part of the Level 4 NVQ in Interpreting (BSL/English). Instead, centres will require candidates to prove their competence in BSL at Level 4 (and competence in English) prior to embarking on the interpreting units. Centres may continue to offer Level 4 NVQ in BSL for this purpose.
- The current interpreting Unit 4.2 will be split into two new units, for one-way and two-way interpreting.

If you would like further information on these developments, please email Christine Foster at christinef@cacdp.org.uk.

8. Farewell to Rosie

Rosie Addis, Qualifications Officer - BSL/English Interpreting, will be leaving her post on Wednesday 3 May 2006. Rosie lives in Edinburgh, and has decided to take up work in Scotland.

Rosie writes, "I would just like to take this opportunity to say a big 'thank you' to those of you who responded to all my requests for comments and advice over the past year or so. I have made many new friends during this time and hope to continue the contact in the years to come".