

Certification Staffing Assignment American Sign Language (ASL)

American Sign Language is identified as a world language in the Public School Code. American Sign Language (ASL) is a complete and autonomous human language with its own unique grammar frequently used as a form of communication by the hearing impaired communities.

The American Sign Language PK-12 (4003) or Hearing Impaired PK-12 (9205) instructional certificate is required to teach American Sign Language to deaf and hearing impaired students with an Individualized Education Plan or regular academic students.

Pathways to ASL Certification

The American Sign Language (4003) instructional certificate requires completion of an ASL program and may be earned as follows:

- An instructional certified educator may complete an American Sign Language (ASL) program, pass the content test¹ and apply for certification.
- Candidates with a bachelor's degree who complete an ASL program may complete an intern program in world language, pass the content test¹ and apply for certification.
- Candidates may complete a two-year ASL program, complete a world language certification program, pass the content test¹ and apply for certification.
- An educator holding the instructional Hearing Impaired PK-12 (9205) certificate may pass the content test¹ and apply to add the subject area to their certificate.

Restrictions

- An American Sign Language PK-12 (4003) certificate is required when world language credit is awarded.
- A Hearing Impaired PK-12 (9205) certificate is required when students are taught in a self-contained hearing impaired classroom.

References: 24 P.S. §15-1524 Recognition of American Sign Language courses; CSPG #62- Hearing Impaired PK-12 (12/1/2014); CSPG #45 -World Languages PK-12 (5/1/2014)

Related Reference: §14.105 Personnel (a) Paraprofessionals. (4)(b)Educational Interpreters

¹ The current content test is the Assessment of Signed Communication – American Sign Language (ASC-ASL) Praxis II test code 0632.