

3rd DRAFT: Ethics and Professional Interpreter's Code (EPiC)

1. COLLABORATION
2. CONDUCT
3. COMPETENCE
- 4. COMMITMENT**
5. CONFIDENTIALITY

COMMITMENT

Deaf & Hearing Interpreters demonstrate unfailing commitment.

Commitment is evident by dedication to development, self-assessment, discretion, and duty.

DEVELOPMENT

Deaf & Hearing Interpreters shall constantly seek and improve through professional development from the members of the Deaf & Interpreting community.

- Ex. 1: Attend and complete interpreting skills training including those who are family members of Deaf individuals.
- Ex. 2: Commit to continuing skill development throughout one's interpreting career through attending Indian Sign Language Interpreting related workshops, seminars, and other learning opportunities.
- Ex. 3: Develop team interpreting skills with both Hearing & Deaf interpreters.
- Ex. 4: Continually improve simultaneous and consecutive language processing skills.
- Ex. 5: Develop fluency in receptive skills and/or voicing skills through exposing oneself to different signing styles of the Deaf individuals /community.
- Ex. 5: Keep up to date with the current knowledge & practices of the interpreting field.
- Ex. 6: Seek mentorship and support from skilled interpreters and Deaf persons.

SELF ASSESSMENT

Deaf & Hearing Interpreters shall accept and internalize feedback to improve interpreting skills on an ongoing basis.

- Ex. 1: Reflect on each interpreting assignment to assess possible improvements in order to maximize effective communication facilitation in future assignments.

- Ex. 2: Seek and share feedback and suggestions after every assignment with the users & your interpreting team to further improve your interpreting skills.
- Ex. 3: Seek and share experiences with interpreting colleagues and Deaf community members to further enhance one's skills.
- Ex. 4: Commit to preventing oneself from using ineffective techniques during future assignments.
- Ex. 5: Commit to self-practice and self-improvement of one's voicing and signing skills.
- Ex. 6: Practice journaling and daily logging of feedback, self-assessment and progress.
- Ex. 7: After identifying one's areas of weaknesses, interpreters should get job shadowing opportunities, internships, and mentoring support.
- Ex. 8: After identifying ones' areas of weaknesses, interpreters should attend Deaf-cultural events, social gatherings, and workshops to further enhance ones' skills.

DISCRETION

Deaf & Hearing Interpreters shall demonstrate discretion when accepting assignments and projects.

- Ex. 1: Accept only those assignments which match one's skills and experience.
- Ex. 2: Be honest with the users at all times.
- Ex. 3: Respect the user's request for specific desired interpreters before & during any job assignment.
- Ex. 4: Do not share the users' preference of an interpreter/s with others.
- Ex. 5: Refer users to an agency or another interpreter/s in the event of mismatch of skill and experience to the interpreting job.
- Ex. 6: If you have an interpreting mentee, interpreters must request approval from the Deaf/Non-Deaf users before any assignment & respect their decision.
- Ex. 7: Exercise extreme caution in determining ability to accept an interpreting job in emergency situations, and shall accept in the event there is no other alternative, with permission of the Deaf users whenever possible.

DUTY

Deaf & Hearing Interpreters shall adhere to the best practices of business principles.

- Ex. 1: Charge rates that are reasonable and reflect skills and experience, without causing harm to the accessibility needs of Deaf individuals.
- Ex. 2: Advertise interpreting services honestly with regard to skills and experience.
- Ex. 3: Avoid contracting practices that deny access to appropriately matched interpreters for the Deaf consumers.
- Ex. 4: Do not promote your own personal service while working as an interpreter for another organisation/agency.
- Ex. 5: Do not manipulate any interpreting situation/s for one's own personal benefit.
- Ex. 6: Appropriate compensation must be secured in a professional manner.
- Ex. 7: Do not undercut one's interpreting colleagues in regards to interpreting opportunities.
- Ex. 8: Interpreters have the option to provide pro bono services at one's own discretion.

- Ex. 9: Interpreters cannot use social media to promote themselves at interpreting assignments.
- Ex. 10: Interpreters must demonstrate integrity with business practices at all times.
- Ex. 11: Abstain from harassing or coercing the users before, during, or after the provision of interpreting services.