

Translator and Interpreter Corps End-Users

The Translator and Interpreter Corps at DePaul is a volunteer, student-based language access service organized to respond to pressing community need for intercultural communication. The Corps provides advanced language students with a unique opportunity for training and practical experience in translation and interpretation while supported by an academic environment. These pro-bono services are available to non-profit, community based organizations offering immigration and other social services to limited-English proficient, low-income individuals.

The Corps is for organizations who have the capacity to provide needed legal and social services but not the sufficient linguistic resources to efficiently and effectively support limited-English proficient individuals. The translations and interpretations are performed by advanced undergraduate and graduate students who must meet minimum requirements to participate.

Our scope includes:

- Translation of client support documents (for example, identification and certificate documents, written testimony, court orders)
- Translation of organization documents (for example, intake forms, service information)
- Interpretation of client meetings (in-person or telephonic)

Languages we currently offer are:

- Spanish, French, Polish, Russian, Arabic and Mandarin Chinese

This volunteer service is pro-bono. Advanced students will be performing these services; they are not monetarily compensated for their work. These students are screened, and must meet minimum requirements and undergo a training to be participant in the Corps program. All of their work is reviewed by native speakers in DePaul's Tutoring & Language Learning Center. Volunteers are aware of the expectations of them, and they are held to university policies. All participants sign a confidentiality and best practice agreement when they begin working with the Corps.

While during testing periods there may be less student availability, limited services are available over winter (December) and summer (June through August) breaks. This is not a 24 hour service: for translations, there is a minimum turnaround time of at least four (4) business days for projects, and will be variable based on the size of the document(s). For interpretation, we require scheduling at least three (3) business days in advance of the desired meeting date and time. We have a limited capacity for services as availability is contingent on student and academic schedules.

The Translator and Interpreter Corps is an interdisciplinary program, a collaboration between the Law School's Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic and the Modern Languages Department and was founded in 2015 through support from the MacArthur Foundation.

For additional information, please contact the Administrator, Citlali Ochoa cochoa@depaul.edu
Our website can be found on the Modern Languages homepage under Student Resources, Translator & Interpreter Corps:
go.depaul.edu/Translation