

1 AN ACT relating to interpreters.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 309.312 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) To be eligible for licensure by the board as an interpreter, the applicant shall submit
5 an application which includes:

6 (a) An application fee; and

7 (b) Current certification from a nationally recognized organization at the requisite
8 level for sign language interpreters, oral interpreters, or cued speech
9 transliterators as determined by the board and promulgated by administrative
10 regulation.

11 (2) *(a) To be eligible for an educational K-12 license from the board as an*
12 *interpreter working in K-12 educational settings, the applicant shall submit*
13 *an application that includes:*

14 *1. An application fee; and*

15 *2. Current certification, assessment, or evaluation at the requisite level*
16 *for sign language interpreters, oral interpreters, or cued speech*
17 *transliterators working in K-12 educational settings as determined by*
18 *the board and promulgated by administrative regulation.*

19 *(b) This subsection shall have no impact on the eligibility of an interpreter*
20 *licensed under subsection (1) of this section to practice in an educational*
21 *setting.*

22 *(3)* The board shall issue an interpreter license *or educational K-12 license* to an
23 applicant who fulfills these requirements. The front of the license shall clearly list
24 all certifications held by the licensee.

25 ~~*(4)*~~~~*(3)*~~ The board may issue a temporary license as an interpreter to an applicant who
26 is certified at a level below that required for licensure in subsection (1) of this
27 section. A temporary license shall be available for a person who is training under

1 the supervision of a licensed interpreter under circumstances defined by the board
2 in administrative regulation. A temporary license is valid for only a certain period
3 until the licensee achieves the minimum level of certification required for licensure
4 under subsection (1) of this section. A temporary license is not renewable although
5 extensions may be granted under circumstances defined by administrative
6 regulation.

7 (a) For graduates of a baccalaureate interpreter training program, a temporary
8 license shall be valid for up to one (1) year.

9 (b) For graduates of an associate of arts interpreter training program, a temporary
10 license shall be valid for up to two (2) years.

11 (c) For nondegree applicants, a temporary license shall be valid for up to two (2)
12 years.

13 ~~(5)~~~~(4)~~ Upon payment of the application fee, the board shall grant licensure to an
14 applicant holding a valid license, certificate, or equivalent issued by another state if
15 it is based upon standards equivalent to or exceeding the standards required by KRS
16 309.300 to 309.319.

17 ➔Section 2. KRS 309.314 is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) Each person licensed as an interpreter shall annually, on or before July 1, submit to
19 the board current proof of nationally recognized certification, **or proof required by**
20 **subsection (2)(a)2. of Section 1 of this Act,** and pay a fee for the renewal of the
21 interpreter **or educational K-12** license. The amount of the fee shall be promulgated
22 by administrative regulation of the board. All licenses not renewed by July 1 of
23 each year shall expire.

24 (2) A sixty (60) day grace period shall be allowed after July 1, during which time
25 individuals may continue to practice and may renew their licenses upon payment of
26 the renewal fee plus a late renewal fee as promulgated by administrative regulation
27 of the board.

- 1 (3) All licenses not renewed by August 31 shall terminate based on the failure of the
2 individual to renew in a timely manner. Upon termination, the licensee is no longer
3 eligible to practice in the Commonwealth.
- 4 (4) After the sixty (60) day grace period, but before five (5) years from the date of
5 termination, individuals with a terminated license may have their licenses reinstated
6 upon payment of the renewal fee plus a reinstatement fee as promulgated by
7 administrative regulation of the board.
- 8 (5) A suspended license is subject to expiration and termination and may be renewed as
9 provided in KRS 309.300 to 309.319. Renewal shall not entitle the licensee to
10 engage in the practice of interpreting until the suspension has ended or is otherwise
11 removed by the board and the right to practice is restored by the board.
- 12 (6) A revoked license is subject to expiration and termination but shall not be renewed.
13 If it is reinstated, the licensee shall pay the reinstatement fee as set forth in
14 subsection (4) of this section and the renewal fee as set forth in subsection (1) of
15 this section.
- 16 (7) The board may require that a person applying for renewal or reinstatement of
17 licensure show evidence of completion of continuing education as prescribed by the
18 board by administrative regulation.