

SLS Interpreter Program Mission Statement

The Sign Language Studies/Interpreter Training Program at Southwestern Illinois College is committed to graduating students that are prepared for entry level, paraprofessional interpreting positions utilizing American Sign Language (ASL) as the primary mode for communicating with individuals that are Deaf or hard of hearing. Graduates will be capable of interpreting between English and ASL and make appropriate cultural adjustments. This program upholds the dignity and worth of all individuals and encourages the process of life-long learning. Faculty is committed to the collection and review of outcomes assessment data regarding student performance to assure that program goals are being met.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Champions for the Associate of Applied Science AAS degree at Southwestern Illinois College is to:

- Assure the student learning of AAS degree students aligns with the college's core competencies, 4-year institution curricula, and governmental requirements.
- Track student success upon graduation.
- Continually assess the educational excellence of the AAS Degree and advocate change as needed.

Educational Goals

SLS Interpreter Program at Southwestern Illinois College will graduate students that can:

1. Demonstrate language competency in American Sign Language and English.
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of linguistic structure and dynamic equivalence.
3. Demonstrate interpreting/transliterating at any level competency in all modes, and be capable of making appropriate cultural adjustments to a variety of situations.
4. Identify and discuss aspects of Deaf history and culture, including events, figures in the Deaf community, technology, education and cultural norms.
5. Exhibit professional behaviors according to the Registry of Interpreters for the Deafs' Code of Professional Conduct, State and Federal Legislation.

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