



School of Applied Arts  
& New Media

## Entrance Requirements for American Sign Language/English Interpretation Diploma Program

**Please send your NSCC application form, transcripts and supporting information to the address below:**

NSCC Admissions  
PO Box 220  
Halifax, NS B3J 2M4  
Telephone: (902) 491-4911 in Metro Halifax  
Telephone: 1-866-679-6722 toll free  
TTY: (902) 491-5509 in Metro Halifax  
TTY: 1-866-288-7034 toll free

### 1. Letter of Intent

You must submit a 500 word *Letter of Intent* which includes the reasons for applying to the ASL/English Interpretation program and your expectations for the two-year program. The letter should also describe past achievements (within the Deaf community or other related experiences) short range and long-term goals as they relate to interpreting.

### 2. Resume

Your resume should outline previous work experience and education. Emphasize skills and experiences that relate to language, cross-cultural experiences, and all second-language learning whether ASL or other languages.

### 3. Reference Letters

You are required to submit two letters of reference to support your application. Examples of people you might approach for such a letter include a member of the Deaf community, a professional interpreter, a personal reference that can speak to your commitment and abilities, or an educator or instructor. Letters should be from individuals who have first-hand experience of your past achievements and commitment to learning. All letters should include a contact number and/or e-mail address. Any Deaf person wishing to record their reference in ASL, on digital videodisc, is welcome to do so. Video references should be no longer than 5 minutes in length on a standard DVD.

### Support Material for American Sign Language/English Interpretation Diploma program

Each submission requires evidence that demonstrates your potential to build on your skills in the program and place you at a level where you can be successful.

As an interpreter, you are the crucial link between two very different worlds. You take a message from English, in a hearing-world context and change it to American Sign Language (ASL) and place it in a Deaf-cultural context, without changing or influencing

the meaning. And you do the same in reverse. Both worlds depend on you in order to understand each other. Applicants to the AEIP are carefully screened to ensure they have the personal and language skills needed to succeed.

In addition to advanced ASL Some other typical qualities that describe successful students are: strong English skills, mature, comfortable working with people different from self, not too shy, able to grasp new ideas quickly, generally flexible and able to deal with stressful situations and in good physical, mental and emotional health.

You should also include transcripts from high school, community college, university or any other educational institution you attended.

### **Skills Assessment**

Once all components of the application have been received by NSCC Admissions, applicants will be invited to an interview and skills assessment with AEIP Faculty. ASL and English skills will be assessed. Assessments for both languages are designed to determine the level of competence and include receptive and expressive elements.

**Students currently enrolled in the Deaf Studies program at NSCC will be exempt from the ASL assessment, conditional upon successful completion of DSP.**

You will complete a basic translation exercise working from ASL to English and English to ASL in order to assess basic translation ability and English skills. Applicants will be given ample time to view and consider a written English passage and then, using notes, produce a videotaped translation into ASL, recorded on videodisc. Likewise, a recorded sample of ASL will be viewed multiple times and a written English translation will be produced. Both translations will be assessed for accuracy, language use and organization.

In addition, applicants will meet with AEIP teaching faculty for an interview to assess their knowledge of Deaf culture and the field of interpreting, and knowledge of self and the world in general.

## **Other information**

### **Application Review Process**

Applications are reviewed as they are received and applicants meeting the criteria of the program prerequisites and entrance portfolio threshold score will be offered a seat in a program section as available. Accordingly, early preparation and submission is recommended. If a seat is not available in the location or program you selected, you may be offered an opportunity to enter a similar program or alternative campus. If your entrance portfolio does not meet the standard, deficiencies will be noted and you will be given the opportunity to address them and re-submit your application as time permits.

**Last Modified 15.01.08**