

University of Houston

American Sign Language Interpreting Application Packet

Thank you for your interest in the UH American Sign Language Interpreting program in the department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. Please review the enclosed information carefully. The deadline is **June 15th** for admission for the fall semester. Enrollment is limited to 20 students per year.

Prerequisites

Applicants must have successfully completed Intermediate American Sign Language III, ASLI 2301 prior to applying. Students may be concurrently enrolled in Intermediate American Sign Language IV, ASLI 2302, and Introduction to the American Sign Language Interpreting Profession, ASLI 3311, when applying for the program.

Transfer Students

Transfer students who wish to apply must first apply to UH. Be sure to check our deadline dates <http://www.uh.edu/admissions/undergraduate/apply-transfer/deadlines/index.php>. Note there is a separate application for domestic and international students. Transfer students must also attend Advising and Registration for Transfer (ART) students prior to registering for classes. <http://www.uh.edu/admissions/conferences/transfer/index.php>. Transfer credits will be evaluated during ART. The following courses will transfer*:

- ASLI 1301: Elementary American Sign Language I
- ASLI 1302: Elementary American Sign Language II
- ASLI 2301: Intermediate American Sign Language III
- ASLI 2302: Intermediate American Sign Language IV
- ASLI 2311: American Sign Language Visual and Gestural Communication
- ASLI 1310: Fingerspelling in American Sign Language
- ASLI 3311: Introduction to the American Sign Language Interpreting Profession
- COMD 3301: Deaf Culture

If your transfer courses do not transfer as direct equivalencies, you may submit a Transfer Credit Petitions along with a course description and syllabi. The Transfer Credit Petition form can be found at: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/forms/#transferpetition>. All petitions must be approved by the ASLI Coordinator. If you wish to have your classes evaluated prior to transferring, submit unofficial transcripts for review by the ASLI Advisor and faculty.

UH students

If you have not declared ASLI as your major, complete a general petition form and submit it to Marla Moreno-Jordan, CRS 138. <http://www.uh.edu/academics/forms>

Application Requirements

Students applying must present the following at the time of application in a single packet. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

1. A written paper, minimum 3 pages double spaced, following APA guidelines, on one of the following topics: (30 points)
 - A. Research in American Sign Language
 - B. A Famous Deaf Person
 - C. The Deaf Community
 - D. Research in Sign Language Interpreting

*Based upon the evaluation of your application, you may be asked to repeat certain courses in ASLI.

2. A 3-5 minute taped sample of his/her American Sign Language on either a flash drive, DVD, or e-mailed with link to Dr. Maher, lmmaher@uh.edu, discussing one or more of the following topics: (40 points)
 - A. How you became interested in American Sign Language
 - B. Why you would like to become a professional interpreter
 - C. Your professional goals following completion of the interpreting program
 - D. Your experience with the Deaf Community
3. Three original, signed letters of recommendation using the attached form from people who are familiar with your signing skills. You may make copies of the recommendation form for each of your 3 references. (10 points)
4. Applicants will be scheduled for interview after all materials are received and the application deadline has passed. . (20 points)

Send the complete application packet to:

Dr. Lynn M. Maher
Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders
100 Clinical Research Services Center
University of Houston
Houston, TX 77204-6018

**University of Houston
American Sign Language Interpreting
Recommendation Form**

Student Name _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Phone: _____

OPTIONAL: I hereby waive my right of access to the material recorded below.

Signature of Applicant Date

Respondent Name & Title _____

How well do you know the applicant? Casually Well Very Well

How do you know the applicant? (Complete all that apply)

Instructor in one course in more than one course

Course 1: _____ Grade earned _____ Class ranking ____/____

Course 2: _____ Grade earned _____ Class ranking ____/____

Course 3: _____ Grade earned _____ Class ranking ____/____

Employer for _____ months _____ years

Applicant's position _____

Other (describe) _____

In your opinion, are the applicant's knowledge and skills of ASL sufficient to support a career in interpreting?

Yes No (please explain briefly) Inadequate opportunity to observe

What, in your judgment, are the applicants strengths and weakness?

Please rate the student on the following dimensions:

	Exceptional 4	Above Average 3	Average 2	Below Average 1	Unable to judge	
American Sign Language Skills	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Oral English Language	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Written English Language	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Work Skills	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Study Skills	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Motivation	●	—————	—————	—————	●	
Potential for success	●	—————	—————	—————	●	

In summary, my recommendation is:

- Strong
- Average
- No recommendation
- Recommendation with reservation

Additional comments. Either in the space below or in an attached letter, include anything else about the student you think might be helpful to the admissions committee as they make their decisions.

Respondent's signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

**Please place the completed form in a sealed envelope. Write your name across the back of the seal and return it to the student.
Thank you.**