

Department of Access Services

Working with Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Students

Let's Reverse Roles

What it's like
to be a deaf student

Different kinds of hearing loss

- Don't assume that all deaf people know sign language
- Each person is unique:
 - Profoundly deaf
 - Hard-of-hearing
 - Oral
 - Lip readers, residual hearing
- Mainstreamed versus deaf schools
- One size does not fit all

Access Services at RIT

- Access - it's the LAW!
- The Department of Access Services (**DAS**) provides: interpreting, live captioning and notetaking
- Students can choose one real-time support service: Interpreting OR Captioning - NOT both
- Captioning versus notetaking
- Deaf students can also request notetaking
- DAS website is: **MyAccess.rit.edu**
 - View notes/transcripts from your classes
 - Make requests for support on time - there is a deadline
 - See which providers are assigned to your class

Access Services at RIT

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- DAS is BIG!
 - 130+ Sign Language Interpreters
 - 55+ Real-Time Captionists
 - 1,000 Student Notetakers, 500 active
 - 1 Director, 1 Director of Operations, 8 Managers, 10 Coordinators, 6 Support Staff, Scheduling Office for Interpreting
- ▶ We supported 840 classes with notetaking, 795 classes with interpreting and 335 classes with captioning last semester
- ▶ We support special requests (guest speakers, field trips, meetings, etc.)

Working with Captionists & Interpreters

- ▶ We facilitate communication for ALL
- ▶ We adhere to a professional Code of Ethics
- ▶ Be aware of process/lag time
- ▶ Steady and slow is the way to go
- ▶ Take turns when speaking
- ▶ Need course media captioned?
<https://wallacecenter.rit.edu/tls/mediarequest/login>
- ▶ Learn how to turn captions on for media
- ▶ Student presentations with audio should be captioned

Working with Captionists & Interpreters

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- ▶ Use classifiers
- ▶ Spell words we might not know
- ▶ We have access to MyCourses
- ▶ Changing lesson plans? Let us know
- ▶ Talk directly to your student, not us
- ▶ Problems with a provider? Let us know
- ▶ Teaching online? Contact us in advance! sasnes@rit.edu
- ▶ We are here to support YOU and our students
- ▶ Need help? We're happy to help! 😊

Notetakers

- ▶ Are students enrolled in your class
- ▶ There are 1,000+ student notetakers on our payroll
- ▶ We hire, train and pay them \$9.70 per hour
- ▶ We require a 3.0 GPA
- ▶ We own their notes after class
- ▶ Notes (& transcripts) are uploaded to our website 24 hours
- ▶ We want your feedback
- ▶ It's a tough job
- ▶ We do not pay when there are exams or canceled classes

Questions?

DAS Website:
MyAccess.rit.edu