



Transfer Student Guide: Pima Community College

Deaf Studies/Educational Interpreting ▶▶▶

ADMISSIONS

The University of Arizona requires a Professional Admissions application to earn entry into the College of Education's deaf studies program. The application should be completed while applying for transfer admission to the university, although students may transfer as a pre-deaf studies major and apply in a future semester.

An emphasis area is required in educational interpreting or in a customizable area based on career goals. The educational interpreting emphasis is the best option for a career in ASL interpreting; see page 2 for additional requirements. Additional career areas and graduate programs include: 1) counseling, 2) deaf education, 3) teaching ASL, and 4) advocacy.

IN ADDITION TO COMPLETION OF THE AGEC-A OR AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE, THE FOLLOWING PRE-PROFESSIONAL COURSES ARE REQUIRED FOR PROFESSIONAL ADMISSION:

Pima Community College courses	Completion status at time of application	University of Arizona courses
ASL 202: American Sign Language (4 th semester) Or fluency through ASL 4 th semester via a UA proficiency exam	Must be completed or in progress	SERP 431B: American Sign Language (4 th semester)

Visit education.arizona.edu/transfer-students to learn more.

Identify your UA COE major advisor at <https://bit.ly/meet-your-advisor> or 520-621-7865.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS APPLICATION PROCESS

The Professional Admission application is used to ensure all eligible students meet coursework requirements by the application deadline. To be a qualified applicant, students should focus on strong overall academic performance and demonstrate commitment to the deaf community. **Applications are due the second Friday of February by 4 p.m.** to begin the program in the following fall semester. Those applying for the educational interpreting track must:

- ▶ Apply to be admitted to UA for summer (semester prior to fall start of professional program)
- ▶ Complete SERP 444a (Intensive ASL) in summer (typically held M-F in first half of summer)
- ▶ Participate in interview process at the end of SERP 444A

PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS CONSIDERS THE FOLLOWING SELECTION CRITERIA:

Grade Point Average

Program applicants are required to demonstrate a strong GPA (minimum 2.5; 3.0 preferred), but all applicants are considered and reviewed holistically and on a case-by-case basis. Demonstrating a GPA below 2.5 does not necessarily indicate ineligibility for the program; speak with a UA COE advisor to learn more.

Foundation Coursework

Students should be approaching junior standing (60 units) by the end of the semester in which they are applying. AGEC or its equivalent should be completed and includes the following completed coursework:

- ▶ WRT 101 and WRT 102
- ▶ Foundational math (consult with UA COE advisor to discuss options if not completing AGEC)

Recommendations

You will need two original, professional letters of recommendation on the affiliated organization's letterhead:

- ▶ 1 letter to document your ASL fluency
- ▶ 1 letter to support your professionalism, strengths, and/or commitment to serving the deaf community

Fingerprint Clearance Requirement

Applicants must provide a copy (front and back) of their Arizona IVP fingerprint clearance card at the time of admission. This is required for educational interpreting candidates and strongly recommended for general emphasis candidates to allow for internship and volunteer opportunities. If you do not have this card, visit education.arizona.edu/fingerprint-clearance-requirement.

Essay

Describe your experiences with American Sign Language (ASL) and the Deaf community, including any work or interactions that have shaped your understanding of Deaf culture. If you are interested in the Educational Interpreting emphasis, discuss any experiences you may have working with children or youth, particularly in educational settings, and how these experiences have influenced your decision. Explain which emphasis (Educational Interpreting or General) you wish to focus on and why, and what motivates you to work with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. This essay should be 500-750 words and highlight key experiences, activities, and insights that have inspired your passion for the Deaf Studies major.

(Optional) Additional Essay*: If your GPA is below the required 2.50 and/or you are missing any application requirements, please prepare an additional essay addressing the circumstances that have affected your GPA/ability to complete all application requirements by the deadline. *Ask your UA COE advisor if you are unsure about completing this essay.

Maintain Good Academic Standing

Students must be admitted to the University of Arizona and be in good academic standing (UA GPA of 2.0 or higher) at the beginning of the semester in which they intend to begin their upper-division courses.