ARTICLE 46:31

INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF

Chapter
46:31:01 Certification procedures.
46:31:02 Interpreter registration and certification.
46:31:03 Provisional certification.
46:31:04 Continuing education.
46:31:05 Fees.
46:31:06 Medical, educational, or legal settings.

CHAPTER 46:31:01

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE

Section
46:31:01:01 to 46:31:01:04 Repealed.
46:31:01:04.01 Notice to division of complaint.
46:31:01:04.02 Notice to interpreter of complaint.
46:31:01:04.03 Investigation of complaint.
46:31:01:05 Denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate.
46:31:01:05.01 Appeal of denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate.
46:31:01:05.02 Time and place of hearing -- Time extension.


Source: 14 SDR 54, effective October 15, 1987; transferred from § 71:04:01:01, SL 1989, ch 21, § 5, effective July 1, 1989; 19 SDR 68, effective November 8, 1992; 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.


Source: 14 SDR 54, effective October 15, 1987; transferred from § 71:04:01:03, SL 1989, ch 21, § 5, effective July 1, 1989; 19 SDR 68, effective November 8, 1992; 23 SDR 16, effective
August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.

46:31:01:03.01. Registration of interpreters. Repealed.

Source: Provision on denial of level of certification transferred from § 46:31:01:05(1), 19 SDR 68, effective November 8, 1993; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.


Source: 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.


Source: 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.

Cross-Reference: Department of Human Services to certify interpreters, SDCL 1-36A-10.1.


Source: 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.

46:31:01:03.05. Fees. Repealed.

Source: 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996; 24 SDR 190, effective July 16, 1998; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.

46:31:01:03.06. Certification levels required for legal, medical, and educational settings. Repealed.

Source: 20 SDR 130, effective February 14, 1994; 26 SDR 96, effective January 24, 2000; repealed, 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.


46:31:01.04.01. Notice to division of complaint. Any complaint against a certified interpreter shall be made in writing and include the full name and address of the complainant. The
complaint shall outline the facts which clearly and accurately describe the nature of the complaint. A complaint must be sent by first class mail to the Division of Rehabilitation Services, c/o 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-9835.

The division may accept a complaint in an electronic format if it is readily accessible in a format that can be downloaded, printed, or otherwise maintained as a record for future reference.

Source: 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:01:04.02. Notice to interpreter of complaint. The division shall provide written notice that a complaint has been received and a copy of the facts of the complaint to the interpreter by first class mail within ten business days after receipt of the complaint.

The interpreter must send a written response to the allegations to the division within 30 business days after receipt of the written notice.

The division may accept a written response to the allegations in an electronic format if it is readily accessible in a format that can be downloaded, printed, or otherwise maintained as a record for future reference.

Failure to respond in writing to the allegations within the time frame required constitutes admission to the allegations and the division shall make a decision without further investigation.

Source: 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:01:04.03. Investigation of complaint. The division shall process the complaint and complete an investigation within 90 business days of receipt of the complaint.

Within ten business days of completion of the investigation the division shall make a decision and the interpreter shall be notified of the following:

(1) The findings of the investigation;
(2) Any corrective action, if necessary, and the time-frame required for completion;
(3) The decision to be carried out if the corrective action is not completed to the satisfaction of the division within the required time frame; and
(4) The right to appeal any decision to deny, suspend, or revoke the interpreter's certification as provided in § 46:31:01:05.01.

Upon conclusion of the investigation and arriving at a decision that unprofessional conduct has been proven, the division may issue a letter of reprimand, suspend, or revoke the interpreter's certification.
46:31:01:05. Denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate. The department may suspend, deny, or revoke a registration or a certificate for any of the following causes:

1. The interpreter is convicted of a felony which makes the interpreter unfit to serve the public as an interpreter;

2. The interpreter impersonates another person holding registration or interpreter certification with the department;

3. The interpreter allows another person to use the interpreter's registration or certificate;

4. The interpreter uses fraud, deception, or misrepresentation in the registration or certification process;

5. The interpreter is adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction;

6. The interpreter may not harass, abuse, or threaten anyone while acting in the capacity as an interpreter;

7. The interpreter intentionally divulges confidential information relating to the certification process, including content, topic, vocabulary, skills, or any other testing materials;

8. The interpreter does not keep all information in any interpreting situation in strictest confidence;

9. The interpreter knowingly does not transmit all messages accurately and convey the content and mood of the speaker;

10. The interpreter does not provide interpreting services that are competent, impartial, and professional;

11. The interpreter counsels, advises, or interjects personal opinions in any interpreting situation; or

12. The interpreter does not provide to the consumer information on consumer's rights and the role and appropriate use of interpreting services when requested;

13. The interpreter fails to meet the minimum requirements for certification or recertification as provided in this chapter; or

14. The interpreter fails to adhere to the Code of Professional Conduct, effective July 1, 2005, as adopted by the National Association of the Deaf and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.
46:31:01:05.01. Appeal of denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate. An interpreter or applicant may appeal the denial, suspension, or revocation of certification. An appeal shall be made in writing to the Director of the Division of Rehabilitation Services within ten days of receipt of notice regarding denial, suspension, or revocation of the interpreter's certificate. The division director shall provide a determination within 30 days of receipt of request for appeal. An interpreter dissatisfied with the division director's determination may request a fair hearing, pursuant to SDCL chapter 1-26, by notifying the department in writing within ten days of receipt of the division director's decision. While denial, suspension, or revocation of certificate is being appealed, the interpreter's certificate remains in effect until a final decision is reached after a hearing.

Source: 28 SDR 84, effective December 20, 2001; 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.

General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

Cross-Reference: License proceeding treated as contested case, SDCL 1-26-27.

46:31:01:05.02. Time and place of hearing -- Time extension. A fair hearing by an impartial hearing officer shall be held within 90 days after receipt of such request by the interpreter or applicant. The impartial hearing officer shall set a time and place for the hearing to be held at the earliest reasonable time. Time extensions may be provided by the impartial hearing officer, or at the request of any of the parties involved and upon agreement of both parties to a specific extension of time.

General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-26-27.

46:31:01:06. Right to informal administrative review. Repealed.


Source: 14 SDR 54, effective October 15, 1987; transferred from § 71:04:01:12, SL 1989, ch 21, § 5, effective July 1, 1989; repealed, 23 SDR 16, effective August 8, 1996.


CHAPTER 46:31:02

INTERPRETER REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION
46:31:02:01  Definitions. Terms used in this chapter mean:

(1) "Certificate," a document issued by the department or a national organization recognized by the department, which signifies that the interpreter for the deaf has met certain minimum requirements;

(2) "Certified interpreter," a person registered and certified with the department who performs interpreting as defined in SDCL 1-36A-10.2;

(3) "Contact hour," one contact hour equals one continuing education unit;

(4) "Department," the Department of Human Services;

(5) "Educational interpreter performance assessment" or "EIPA," a diagnostic tool which is language-free, designed specifically for an interpreter working with children and young adults in an educational setting;

(6) "National Association of the Deaf" or "NAD," a national organization for the deaf;

(7) "Nationally certified interpreter," an interpreter for the deaf holding a valid NAD certificate or RID certificate;

(8) "South Dakota interpreter certification," a certificate issued by the department to an interpreter registering initially or annually by meeting the requirements in § 46:31:02:03 or 46:31:02:04;

(9) "Registration," the process by which an interpreter’s credentials and continuing education requirements, if required, are verified by the department and a South Dakota certificate is then issued;

(10) "Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc." or "RID," a national organization that certifies interpreters for the deaf.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006; 35 SDR 165, effective December 22, 2008; 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.

General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.


46:31:02:03. **Initial registration.** The department shall register any individual who submits a completed registration form provided by the department, the applicable fee, and one of the following documentations:

1. A current NAD or RID certificate;
2. An assessment score of 3.5 or higher on the EIPA performance test obtained not more than five years prior to the date of initial registration; or
3. A South Dakota interpreter certificate obtained within the previous year and the required contact hours pursuant to subdivision 46:31:02:04(2).

The department shall deny registration of any individual who fails to comply with the requirements of this section.

46:31:02:04. **Annual registration.** The department shall renew the registration of any individual who has a South Dakota certificate that has not expired and submits a completed registration form provided by the department no later than August 31 of each year, the applicable fee, and one of the following documentations:

1. A current NAD or RID certificate; or;

2. Documentation verifying completion of any of the 80 contact hours required in § 46:31:02:04.01, provided by one of the entities listed in § 46:31:04:01.

The department shall send notice of renewal to the interpreter at least 60 days prior to expiration of the interpreter’s current certificate.

46:31:02:04.01. **Continuing education maintenance cycle.** Each interpreter must complete a minimum of 80 contact hours during a four-year maintenance cycle. Each cycle is four years in length. However, the first cycle for an interpreter initially registering with an EIPA assessment score may be longer based on when the division grants the certificate. All subsequent cycles for that interpreter will be exactly four years and will begin September 1 and end August 31.

The first four-year maintenance cycle for any currently certified South Dakota interpreter shall begin September 1, 2011.
46:31:02:04.02. Continuing education maintenance cycle extension. The division shall consider granting a one-year extension of the continuing education maintenance cycle upon written request by an interpreter in good standing. The request and accompanying documentation must be submitted prior to the end of the interpreter's current four-year cycle.

The division shall grant an extension based on the inability to accrue the required number of continuing education contact hours for any sudden and unforeseeable traumatic, catastrophic, life-altering event that disrupts the life of the certified interpreter or an immediate family member for a considerable amount of time.

The granting of the extension does not delay the beginning of the interpreter's new cycle. Once sufficient contact hours have been earned to complete the extended cycle, any subsequent contact hours shall be applied to the interpreter's new cycle.

46:31:02:05. NAD and RID certified interpreter registration. Repealed.

46:31:03. PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION

46:31:03:01. Eligibility requirements. Any individual applying for a provisional certificate must meet the following requirements:

1. Comply with the requirements of SDCL 1-36A-10.4;
2. Submit a completed provisional application provided by the department;
3. Submit a plan pursuant to § 46:31:03:02; and
4. Submit the applicable fee.
46:31:03:02. Approved plan. A self-identified professional development plan must be submitted to the department for approval prior to a provisional certificate being issued. The plan shall outline the individual plan of study and contact hours between the mentor and the interpreter applying for provisional certification. The plan shall require at a minimum eight contact hours of mentoring per month and 25 contact hours of continued interpreter education per year provided pursuant to § 46:31:04:01.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:03:03. Mentoring requirements. Mentoring shall be provided by a certified interpreter or an individual who is deaf, approved by the department, to provide training by teaching, guiding, and advising interpreters and assisting them in achieving national certification or a higher level of certification by improving their knowledge of sign language and the interpreting process. The mentor shall assist the interpreter with completing the mentoring application, assessment of skills, and plan of study pursuant to § 46:31:03:02. Any mentoring services must be pre-approved by the department.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:03:04. Continuing education requirements. Any individual issued a provisional certificate shall submit documentation verifying completion of 25 contact hours annually of continued interpreter education provided pursuant to § 46:31:04:01 by providing copies of the continuing education unit documents.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:03:05. Annual registration. Any individual issued a provisional certificate shall register annually with the department by submitting a completed registration form provided by the department, continuing education requirements as outlined in § 46:31:03:04, and any applicable fee. Failure to comply may result in denial of registration and loss of provisional certification.

The department shall send notice of renewal to the interpreter at least 60 days prior to expiration of the interpreter’s current certificate.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.  
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.  

CHAPTER 46:31:04
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Section
46:31:04:01 Interpreter education training.

46:31:04:01. Interpreter education training. The continuing education for an interpreter shall include training in sign language interpreter skills, knowledge of the language and culture of the deaf, and professional practices of interpreting. The training shall be provided by one of the following:

(1) Interpreter training accredited by a state or national educational accrediting agency;  
(2) Interpreter training endorsed by NAD or RID; or  
(3) Interpreter training approved by the department, conducted by a Level V South Dakota certified interpreter, Level V NAD certified interpreter, RID certified interpreter holding a Certificate of Interpretation and Certificate of Transliteration or NIC advanced and master level.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006; 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.  
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.  
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

CHAPTER 46:31:05
FEES

Section
46:31:05:01 Fee schedule.

46:31:05:01. Fee schedule. The following are the fees for registration and certification:

(1) Initial and annual registration of South Dakota certified interpreter $ 75  
(2) Initial registration of nationally certified interpreter $ 50  
(3) Annual registration of nationally certified interpreter $ 35  
(4) Provisional certification $ 250  
(5) Annual registration of provisional certification $ 35  
(6) Name change on records $ 10
CHAPTER 46:31:06

MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL, OR LEGAL SETTINGS

Section
46:31:06:01 Certification level required for medical, educational, or legal settings.
46:31:06:02 Certification level required for criminal proceedings or serious medical procedures.
46:31:06:03 Repealed.

46:31:06:01. Certification level required for medical, educational, or legal settings. Any individual registered and certified in South Dakota and holding a level III South Dakota certificate, level III NAD certificate, RID certificate, NIC, or a South Dakota provisional certificate, may interpret in all settings except for criminal proceedings or serious medical procedures as defined in § 46:31:06:02. An individual certified by the department using the EIPA assessment score of 3.5 or higher may only interpret in elementary and secondary educational settings.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006; 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.

General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:06:02. Certification level required for criminal proceedings or serious medical procedures. Any individual registered and certified in South Dakota and holding a level IV or V South Dakota certificate, level IV or V NAD certificate, NIC advanced or master level, RID certificate of interpretation or certificate of transliteration, RID combined certificate of interpretation and transliteration, or RID special certificate - legal, may provide interpreting services in the following areas:

(1) Any criminal proceeding, any interrogation by law enforcement which could result in a criminal charge, any arrest or booking at a police station, any meeting with a probation or parole officer, any meeting with an attorney relating to a potential criminal charge or proceeding, any deposition relating to a potential criminal charge or proceeding, and any grand jury proceeding; or

(2) Any serious medical procedure which includes treatment of any health condition that may be life threatening or potentially life threatening, any surgical procedure, any medical examination other than routine, alcohol and drug, psychological, and psychiatric evaluation or treatment.
Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006.
General Authority: SDCL 1-36A-12.
Law Implemented: SDCL 1-36A-12.

46:31:06:03. EIPA certified interpreter. Repealed.

Source: 33 SDR 107, effective December 26, 2006; repealed, 37 SDR 111, effective December 7, 2010.