

SIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW (SLPI) RATING SCALE

RATINGS

DESCRIPTORS

Superior:

Able to have a fully shared conversation, with in-depth elaboration for both social and work topics. Demonstrates very broad sign language vocabulary; near native like production and fluency; excellent use of sign language grammatical features; and excellent comprehension for normal signing rate.

Advanced Plus:

Exhibits some superior level skills, but not all and not consistently.

Advanced:

Able to have a generally shared conversation with good, spontaneous elaboration for both social and work topics. Broad sign language vocabulary knowledge and clear, accurate production of signs and finger-spelling at a normal/near normal rate; occasional mis-productions do not detract from conversational flow. Good use of many sign language grammatical features and comprehension good for normal signing rate.

Intermediate Plus:

Exhibits some advanced level skills, but not all and not consistently.

Intermediate:

Able to discuss with some confidence routine social and work topics within a conversational format with some elaboration; responses are generally 3-to-5 sentences. Good knowledge and control of everyday/basic sign language vocabulary (may have several sign mis-productions), with fluency generally characterized by moderate signing pace and some inappropriate pauses/hesitations. Demonstrates use of some sign language grammatical features in connected discourse, but not controlled. Fairly good comprehension for a moderate-to-normal signing rate; a few repetitions and rephrasing of questions may be needed.

Survival Plus

Exhibits some intermediate level skills, but not all and not consistently.

Survival

Able to discuss basic social and work topics with responses generally 1-to-3 sentences in length. Demonstrates some knowledge of basic sign language vocabulary with many sign vocabulary errors. Slow-to-moderate signing rate with (some) inappropriate pausing; and basic use of a few sign language grammatical features. Fair comprehension for signing produced at a slow-to-moderate rate with some repetition and rephrasing.

Novice Plus

Exhibits some survival skills, but not all and not consistently.

Novice

Able to provide single sign and some short phrase/sentence responses to basic questions signed at a slow-to-moderate rate with frequent repetition and rephrasing. Vocabulary primarily related to everyday work and/or social areas such as basic work-related signs, family members, basic objects, colors, numbers, names of weekdays, and time. Production and fluency characterized by many sign production errors and by a slow rate with frequent inappropriate pauses/hesitations.

No Functional Skill May be able to provide short single sign and primarily fingerspelled responses to some basic questions signed at a slow rate with extensive repetition and rephrasing.

For employees providing results from the ASLPI, the following equivalency will be utilized.

SLPI Rating Level - ASLPI Rating Equivalency

Superior = 5
Advanced Plus = 4+
Advanced = 4
Intermediate Plus = 3+
Intermediate = 3
Survival Plus = 2+
Survival = 2
Novice Plus = 1+
Novice = 1
No Functional Skills = 0