

## **Kishwaukee College**

### **Guidelines for Instructors with Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

#### **Students in the Classroom**

A student who is deaf or hard of hearing usually requires some support services in the classroom. The following information will provide you with some general guidelines to assist you in providing a valuable educational experience to the deaf or hard of hearing student in your classroom. If you have any specific questions, please contact Kristin Elliott, Coordinator of Disability Services, at 815-825-9467.

- It is very helpful to write new vocabulary and homework assignments on the blackboard.
- If possible, try not to move around too much. Avoid standing in front of a window as the glare will make it impossible for the student to read lips.
- When talking with the student, face the student directly. Talk at your normal rate of speed.
- During group discussions try to make sure only one person speaks at a time and that the hard of hearing student is aware of who is speaking.
- Be aware that the hard of hearing student cannot take in spoken instructions while continuing to read or write, as hearing students can. Write any changes on the blackboard.

#### **Use of Interpreters/Captionists (CART) in the classroom**

- Throughout the interpreting situation, the interpreter remains completely neutral. The interpreter does not participate in activities, act as an editor, prompt the student, etc.
- Please refrain from asking the interpreter personal questions about the student. Ask the student.
- When speaking to a student through an interpreter, always speak directly to the student. There is no need to say "ask him..." or "tell her..."
- Ask students to speak one at a time, as multiple conversations make the interpreting difficult.
- Be mindful whether you are moving fast and keep an eye on the interpreter to see if they appear to be keeping up with you.
- Please be aware that both interpreters and real-time captionists have a 24 hour cancellation policy. If at all possible alert DS (or the student) if you know class will be canceled or your course schedule will be changing.
- During group discussions please be prepared to pass the microphone to others to speak so the captionist can hear what is being said.
- Please understand that if internet connection is lost, so is CART. The student may need to make adjustments to try and remedy the problem or may lose it altogether.