



*Arizona Superior Court
in Pima County
Office of the Court Interpreter*

Victoria F. Vásquez
Director, Interpreting Services

(520) 724-3888
Fax (520) 724-8872
vfvásquez@sc.pima.gov

110 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701

**PLAN FOR ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF COURT PARTICIPANTS
WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who receives interpreter services at Superior Court?

Answer: Any person who is a limited- or non-English speaker including victims, witnesses, plaintiffs, respondents or defendants that need interpreting in court is provided services.

2. Who pays for interpreter services?

Answer: The Arizona Superior Court in Pima County does not charge users for interpreter services. The cost of language assistance services is part of the Court's operating costs.

3. How soon should I request interpreter services?

Answer: Requests for interpreter services should be made as soon as possible. Individuals representing themselves and attorneys in non-criminal matters should make their request no more than 10 business days before a hearing, unless there are extraordinary circumstances.

4. What types of services are eligible for interpreter services?

Answer: The Arizona Superior Court in Pima County provides interpreter services for all four of its legal benches including Criminal, Domestic/Family Law, Probate and Civil. All court hearings are covered as well as interviews and other activities offered by our Conciliation Court, Adult Probation, Pretrial Services and Jury Commissioner (for ASL jurors) departments. Ancillary services such as court ordered treatment, some court ordered depositions, parenting classes, and mental health evaluations are also covered by the Court's Language Assistance Plan, as well as any court ordered activities.

5. Are translation services provided just like interpretation services?

Answer: No. Until further notice, only court divisions or departments are eligible to receive translation services from the Office of the Court Interpreter, unless a party applies to a court division who in turn issues a court order to the Office of the Court Interpreter for translation services.

6. Who may interpret in hearings or translate documents for the Court?

Answer: Only individuals who are staff interpreters or are on the Office of the Court Interpreter Qualified List of Per Diems may interpret at the Superior Court. Call **520/724-3888** for information on how to qualify.

7. Are Sign Language Interpreters covered under the Court's LAP?

Answer: No. However, individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing are covered under the American's with Disabilities Act and are offered languages services by the Court pursuant to this federal law.

All other questions should be forwarded to the Office of the Court Interpreter at 520/724-3888.