Explanation of Credentials – Virginia Quality Assurance Screened (VQAS) Interpreters

Candidates who participate in the Virginia Quality Assurance Screening (VQAS) assessment process may be awarded levels based on the results of that assessment. For more information about VQAS, visit the VQAS page on our website. The following information provides a brief overview of each of the screening levels which may be awarded and general information about the types of assignments interpreters with those levels might be able to assist with.

**How To Verify an Interpreters VQAS Credentials**

Candidates who have taken the assessment and been awarded a VQAS Screening Level are issued a laminated wallet card, signed by the VDDHH Director.The card includes their screening levels in both interpreting and transliterating as well as the expiration date of those screening levels (3 years after the date of award). If the interpreter does not have a copy of their VQAS credentials and you want to verify those levels, you may contact the VQAS Coordinator and request verification.

**INTERPRETING LEVELS**

I-IV Interpreting Level IV – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 95% of the total message and are recommended for situations which are not life threatening, legal in nature or surgical situations.

I-III Interpreting Level III – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 80% of the total message and are recommended for routine medical appointments, childbirth classes, eligibility and Welfare, non-technical meetings and pre-K through 12, and undergraduate course work.

I-II Interpreting Level II – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 65% of the total message and are recommended for Library, parks and recreation, YMCA, arts and crafts Non-academic adult education On-the-job training (non-computer, non-technical).

I-I Interpreting Level I - Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 50% of the total message and are not recommended for placement without supervision by a mentoring interpreter.

**TRANSLITERATING LEVELS**

T-IV Transliterating Level IV – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 95% of the total message and are recommended for situations which are not life threatening, legal in nature or surgical situations.

T-III Transliterating Level III – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 80% of the total message and are recommended for routine medical appointments, childbirth classes, eligibility and Welfare, non-technical meetings and pre-K through 12, and undergraduate course work.

T-II Transliterating Level II – Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 65% of the total message and are recommended for Library, parks and recreation, YMCA, arts and crafts Non-academic adult education On-the-job training (non-computer, non-technical).

T-I Transliterating Level I - Holders of this screening level demonstrated the ability to convey a minimum 50% of the total message and are not recommended for placement without supervision by a mentoring interpreter.