

Overview of Deaf Self-Advocacy Training Curriculum Tool Kit

Module 1

This module introduces the concept of asking for what we need by explaining the difference between advocacy and self-advocacy. Information about approaches to advocacy and self-advocacy are shared from national organizations within the Deaf community. Several types of communication access will be discussed, with a review of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The learner will have opportunities to examine their previous experience with advocacy and self-advocacy.

Module 2

This module introduces self-esteem and self-determination as the mindset people need to have so that they can believe that they can achieve their self-advocacy goals. Learners will reflect on their experience and what they have learned, and then reinforce positive perceptions of each other and their selves.

Module 3

This module shares information about the role and responsibilities of interpreters, and their qualifications. Learners are introduced to the interpreting process and the linguistic and cultural mediation involved in the interpreting process. This module also provides information about requirements for the certification and licensure of interpreters.

Module 4

This module explores the professional ethics of interpreters. The learner is guided through an in-depth examination of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Code of Professional Conduct, and its formal grievance process. The module also makes recommendations on how to work with interpreters.

Module 5

The provision of interpreting services through video conferencing technology is examined, including the required components to facilitate this service. Learner will view and discuss the benefits of interpreters providing services through video. The module closes with the learner applying their understanding of this service by explaining the function of this service in their own words.

Module 6

This module examines the value of understanding the impact of attitude on self-advocacy, in addition to an exploration of reasonable accommodations for communication access and its benefits. The topic of discrimination is also addressed. The learner will also discuss how reasonable accommodations also benefit hearing people.

Module 7

This module shares four types of resources for self-advocacy, and recommend approaches for searching and identifying resources. After viewing other Deaf people share their self-advocacy success stories, the learner will establish a self-advocacy goal and develop a plan of action.

Deaf Self-Advocacy Training (DSAT) Work Team Purpose

The Deaf Self-Advocacy Training work team was created for the purpose of increasing the Deaf community's ability to self-advocate for effective communication by developing educational training opportunities for Deaf community members that are culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate.