



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45530 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

Dear requesting provider,

Thank you for requesting a sign language interpreter for an Apple Health (Medicaid) client! For Apple Health to cover this request, all eligibility and coverage criteria must be met. You can find all criteria on the Health Care Authority (HCA) Interpreter Services webpage at hca.wa.gov/about-hca/interpreter-services.

To summarize the eligibility and coverage criteria, Apple Health will only cover sign language interpreters when:

- The patient (or their parent or legal guardian) is an eligible Apple Health client.
- The provider is delivering services Apple Health covers.
- The provider is enrolled with Apple Health.
- Interpreter services are authorized and provided through the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) master contract.

As an Apple Health provider, you are responsible for verifying client eligibility and benefit coverage for services before delivering them. You are also required to verify client eligibility and benefit coverage for sign language interpreter services before you request a sign language interpreter.

If Apple Health does not cover your interpreter request due to lack of client or provider eligibility, then you are responsible for paying for the interpreter, and the sign language contractor will bill you directly for interpreter services rendered.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) require you to provide interpreter services, including sign language. View the US Department of Health and Human Services' training developed to help clarify rule 1557 of the Affordable Care requirement under Medicaid at hhs.gov/sites/default/files/section1557-training-slides.pdf.

If this request was submitted as an Apple Health request in error, please immediately:

- Cancel the request on the ODHH online request form, or
 - Contact the sign language contractor so they can cancel the request on your behalf.
- If you do not cancel the request, you will be billed directly by the sign language contractor for the cost of the interpreter.**

Please visit Sign Language Interpreter Contracts and Resources Program webpage at dshs.wa.gov/altsa/odhh/sign-language-interpreter-contracts-and-resources-program for more information on the rates and fees for interpreters when they are not covered by Apple Health.

Thank you,

Health Care Authority Interpreter Services Program