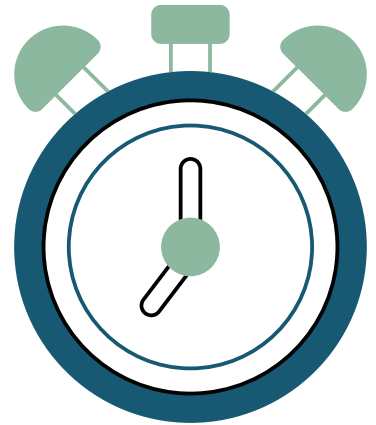


WORKING WITH ASL INTERPRETERS

Making your presentation more accessible to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing (DHH) audiences

LEAVE TIME FOR PREP

- Give your draft materials to interpreters early-- **at least a week before** your presentation! Interpreters need this prep time to understand terms and convey concepts.
- Please share slides, notes, and videos of similar presentations. These will be kept private.
- You can share unfinished materials--these are still very helpful.



MAKE YOUR SLIDES VISUALLY ACCESSIBLE

- Reducing the amount of text on slides ensures that your audience will understand key points.
- If you have a complicated or busy figure, consider presenting parts of the figure instead of all at once.
- Remove distracting backgrounds and animations, and keep only salient points.



DIRECT ATTENTION

- DHH Individuals take in all the information in your presentation through what they see.
- It's challenging to split attention between looking at you, an interpreter, and the slide or figure, all at the same time.
- When you present a new slide, pause briefly to let everyone look over the slide, then continue with your explanation.



THINK ABOUT PACE

- Remember to slow down! Many academics speak very quickly and use a lot of jargon.
- If you speak at a slower, clearer pace, this will benefit everyone in the audience in understanding your presentation.
- Try to avoid reading directly from a script.
- You can still speak normally, but it will be helpful to briefly pause between thoughts. Add pauses to help with visual processing.



UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- Presenters often spend years developing expertise to share with others; interpreters want to ensure this content is understood and appreciated by all.
- Using these principles will encourage the entire audience to focus on important information.
- Giving more time to process to avoid splitting attention ensures everyone understands your ideas.
- When we design to include DHH individuals, we make information accessible to everyone.



For more information about working with ASL interpreters, to go:
<https://tinyurl.com/WorkingASLinterpreters>