

[Japanese Training Program for Sign Language Volunteers and Sign Language Interpreters]

[Japanese Training Program for Sign Language Volunteers]

- **Beginner Course**

- **Basic Course**

Target: Those who have never learned sign language

Training Objectives:

To understand hearing disability, life of the Deaf and related welfare systems, and to learn sign language vocabulary and communication skills required for daily conversations.

Training Program for Sign Language Volunteers

Beginner Course Curriculum

Total 35 hours

Overall Goal

1. Students will be able to understand easy sign language and have a simple conversation in sign language, such as greetings and self-introduction.

The aim of the training (objectives)

1. To learn sign language vocabulary required for daily conversations. Target vocabulary: 300 basic words.
2. To learn easy sign language communication skills required for daily conversations.
3. To have pleasure of communication in sign language.

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Lecture | Basic knowledge of hearing disability: 2 hours | Learn the structure of ear and causes of hearing disability: understand communication methods of the hearing disabled | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Physiology of hearing 2. Process of language acquisition and development 3. Disability approval under the Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons | Otolaryngologist Teacher of school for the Deaf |
| | Basic knowledge of sign language: 1 hour | Learn history and characteristics of Japanese sign language | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Differences between gesture and sign language 2. History of sign language in Japan 3. Regional and social variation of Japanese sign language | Qualified lecturer Certified sign language interpreter |
| | Life of the Deaf: 2 hours | Analyze and learn problems that the Deaf face in daily life and how to correspond to the problems | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communication with family members 2. Communication with local community 3. Problems in child-raising 4. Problems in workplaces 5. Problems in hospitals | Deaf |
| Practical Training | Practical training for expression of sign language: 3 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn basic expressive skills required for sign language 2. Motivated to communicate with the Deaf | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Imitate shapes and movements 2. Use gestures to tell messages (facial expression, strength) | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Sign language expressions (1): 11 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn simple sentences in sign language 2. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greetings and self-introduction (name) 2. Family 3. Hobbies 4. Numbers (age, date of birth) 5. Occupation 6. Address 7. Place (location, direction) 8. Finger spelling 9. Review (self-introduction) | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Sign language expressions (2) (basic dialogue): 7 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn elementary skills for dialogues such as interrogative sentences 2. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Time-related vocabulary, such as year, month day, hour, etc. 2. Interrogative expressions | Deaf Qualified lecturer |
| | Sign language expressions (3) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make use of vocabulary and sentences to hold conversations | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conversation practice for family communication 2. Conversation practice in medical care settings | Deaf Qualified lecturer |

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--|-------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|
| | (conversation): 6 hours | 2. Analyze problems that the Deaf face in daily life and learn related vocabulary | 3. Conversation practice in educational settings | |
| | Review: 3 hours | 1. Improve communicative competence with learned vocabulary and sentences 2. Learn communication skills through conversation with the Deaf | 1. Playlet in sign language in a group of students and the Deaf 2. Free discussion in sign language with the Deaf | Deaf Qualified lecturer |

Remark: Sign language interpreters are required, when the Deaf are supposed to give a lecture.

Training Program for Sign Language Volunteers

Basic Course Curriculum

Total 45 hours

Overall Goal:

1. Students will be able to understand daily conversations in sign language with specific Deaf persons.

The aims of the training (objectives)

1. To learn sign language vocabulary required for daily conversations. Target vocabulary: learned 300 plus additional 300 words.
2. To learn sign language communication skills required for daily conversations
3. To learn basic sign language grammars

| | Subjects | Purpose (objectives) | Contents | Instructor |
|---------|--|--|---|---|
| Lecture | Basic knowledge of welfare for disabled persons: 2 hours | Understand the outline of welfare for disabled persons, including the concept of disabilities and principle of normalization, etc. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Three concepts of disabilities 2. Definition of disabilities 3. Principles of normalization and rehabilitation 4. Outline of welfare systems for disabled persons | Welfare office staff Deaf Academic expert |
| | Deaf movements and welfare system for the Deaf: 2 hours | Understand historical background, requests of the Deaf and related welfare systems for the Deaf through study of history of Deaf movements | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organizations and movements of the Deaf 2. Measures for social participation (sign language volunteers dispatch system etc.) 3. Measures for facilities (Information Center for the Deaf, etc.) 4. Home-based measures (assistive device, etc.) | Welfare office staff Deaf |
| | Volunteer activities: 1 hour | Understand the concept of and preparation for volunteer activities (sign language volunteer activities) and inspire commitment to sign language volunteer activities | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concept of volunteer activities 2. Preparation for volunteer activities (sign language volunteer activities) 3. Introduction of local sign language learning group activities 4. System and orientation of sign language volunteers | Qualified lecturer Deaf Sign language volunteer |

| | Subjects | Purpose (objectives) | Contents | Instructor |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|
| Practical Training | Basic sign language grammar: 22 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve expressive and reading skills with sign language basic grammars 2. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concrete expression skill 2. Replacement expression skill 3. Hands, face and body expression 4. Case grammar (1) positional relation between two persons 5. Case grammar (2) positional relation among over three persons 6. Case grammar (3) pointing 7. Case grammar (4) body turning 8. Case grammar (5) summary 9. Space (1) back/forth, right/left, up/down 10. Space (2) combination 11. Space (3) substitution 12. Simultaneous use of both hands 13. Substitute expression of fingers 14. Repetitive expression | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Review practice: 3 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve communication skills based on learned vocabulary and basic sign language grammars 2. Learn practical communication skills through sign language conversation with the Deaf | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free discussion in sign language with the Deaf 2. Statement in sign language | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

| | Subjects | Purpose (objectives) | Contents | Instructor |
|--|---------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| | Applied grammar: 12 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve expressive and reading skills with applied practices of basic grammars 2. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement expression skill 2. Case grammar (1) position and direction, positional relation between two persons 3. Case grammar (2) positional relation among over three persons, facial expressions including direction of eyes 4. Case grammar (3) pointing, body turning 5. Space (1) back/forth, right/left, up/down, combination 6. Space (2) substitution 7. Simultaneous use of both hands 8. Substitute expression of fingers | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Review practice: 3 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve communication skills based on learned vocabulary and basic sign language grammars 2. Learn practical communication skills through sign language conversation with the Deaf | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sign language performances in groups of the Deaf and the students | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

Remark: Sign language interpreters are required, when the Deaf are supposed to give a lecture.

[Japanese Training Program for Sign Language Volunteers and Sign Language Interpreters]

[Japanese Training Program for Sign Language Interpreters]

- **Further Basic Course**
- **Applied Course**
- **Practical Course**

Target: Those who are able to have daily conversation in sign language with specific Deaf persons.

Training Objectives:

To understand the outline of welfare systems for physically disabled persons and the role and duty of sign language interpreters, and to learn sign language vocabulary and expressive skills required for interpretation.

Training Program for Sign Language Interpreters

Further Basic Course Curriculum

Total 35 hours

Overall Goal

1. Students will be able to provide Deaf clients with sign language interpretation if they are checking on their understanding.
2. Students will be able to provide Deaf clients with sign language interpretation in situations where other means of communication are available, such as application procedures.

The aims of the training (objectives)

1. To learn sign language vocabulary required for interpretation. Target vocabulary: learned 600 plus additional 300 words.
2. To learn sign language communication skills needed to accurately express meaning using the learned vocabulary.
3. To learn basic sign language interpretation skills using the learned vocabulary.

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Lecture | Preparation for sign language interpretation: 2 hours | Learn basic knowledge required for sign language interpreters and understand the role of interpreters | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic knowledge required for sign language interpreters 2. Role of sign language interpreters | Certified sign language interpreter |
| | Introduction to welfare for the physically disabled: 1 hour | Understand the outline of the Fundamental Law for People with Disabilities and Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outline of the Fundamental Law for People with Disabilities 2. Outline of the Act on Welfare of Physically Disabled Persons 3. Outline of the New Long-Term Program and Government Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities | Welfare office staff |
| | Introduction to social work: 2 hours | Learn interview skills through casework, group work and community work | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theories of casework 2. Casework workshop | University teachers Certified social worker |
| Practical Training | Developing basic sign language interpretation skills (1): 11 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn expressive skills required for sign language interpretation 2. Improve ability to store messages 3. Improve ability to summarize 4. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shadowing training using videos and recorded tapes 2. Shadowing training imitating sign language of a deaf person 3. Summarizing training using videos and recorded tapes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize spoken Japanese • Summarize sign language using the same words • Summarize spoken Japanese in sign language • Summarize sign language using paraphrased words • Summarize sign language in spoken Japanese | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--|---|---|--|----------------------------|
| | Basic sign language interpretation skills: 9 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn basic skills required for sign language interpretation 2. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn consecutive interpretation skills from spoken Japanese into sign language: summary and whole expressions 2. Learn consecutive interpretation skills from sign language into spoken Japanese: summary and whole expressions 3. Learn simultaneous interpretation skills from spoken Japanese into sign language: expressions conform to spoken language and to sign language grammar 4. Learn simultaneous interpretation skills from sign language into spoken Japanese: expressions conform to spoken language and to sign language grammar | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Sign language interpretation skills in various settings (1): 10 hours | <p>Learn compliance rules and considerations for interpreting settings</p> <p>Learn how to deal with individual interpreting settings</p> <p>Learn sign language vocabulary</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conformation of messages 2. Phone calls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of information about the situation of the other end 3. Speeches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to interpret for unspecified deaf persons 4. Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation skills to make the Deaf easy to talk • Expressive skills to convey messages of both sides accurately • Provision of information about the situation to the other end 5. Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation skills to allow the Deaf to have their say • Provision of information about the situation | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

Remarks:

1. Shadowing training is a practice to copy expressions nearly simultaneously.
2. Summarizing training is a practice to summarize messages.
3. Sign language interpreters are required, when the Deaf are supposed to give a lecture.

Training Program for Sign Language Interpreters Applied Course Curriculum

Total 35 hours

Overall Goal

1. Students will be able to provide Deaf clients with basic sign language interpretation in daily situations though they may need to make sure if they understand when difficult.

The aims of the training (objectives)

1. To acquire sign language vocabulary required for interpretation. Target vocabulary: learned 900 plus additional 300 words.
2. To acquire applied sign language communication skills needed to accurately express meaning using the learned vocabulary.
3. To acquire applied sign language interpretation skills using the learned vocabulary.

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|---------|--|--|--|---|
| Lecture | Ethics of sign language interpretation and its work (1): 2 hours | Understand how messages are communicated in sign language interpretation and sign language interpreters' duty | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How messages are communicated in sign language interpretation 2. Sign language interpreters' duty <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Communication 2) Information provision 3) Support for independence | Certified sign language interpreter |
| | Structure of language: 2 hours | Understand characteristics of Japanese language and Japanese sign language | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Characteristics of Japanese language 2. Characteristics of Japanese sign language | University teachers |
| | Health care for sign language interpreters | Understand correctly what effect sign language interpretation may have physically and mentally and learn the conditions for healthful sign language interpretation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mechanism of sign language interpretation 2. How to keep good health | Medical specialist Certified sign language interpreter |

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------|
| Practical Training | Developing basic sign language interpretation skills (2): 11 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquire expressive skills required for sign language interpretation 2. Improve ability to store messages 3. Improve ability to summarize 4. Learn sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decalage training using videos and recorded tapes 2. Decalage training imitating sign language of a deaf person 3. Summarizing training using videos and recorded tapes (intralingual training) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summarize spoken Japanese • Summarize sign language using the same words • Summarize spoken Japanese in sign language • Summarize sign language using paraphrased words • Summarize sign language in spoken Japanese | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Applied sign language interpretation skills: 9 hours | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve abilities to apply basic skills required for sign language interpretation 2. Acquire sign language vocabulary | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquire consecutive interpretation skills from spoken Japanese into sign language: summary and whole expressions 2. Acquire consecutive interpretation skills from sign language into spoken Japanese: summary and whole expressions 3. Acquire simultaneous interpretation skills from spoken Japanese into sign language: expressions conform to spoken language and to sign language grammar 4. Acquire simultaneous interpretation skills from sign language into spoken Japanese: expressions conform to spoken language and to sign language grammar | Qualified lecturer Deaf |
| | Sign language interpretation skills in various settings: 10 hours | <p>Acquire compliance rules and considerations for interpreting settings</p> <p>Acquire how to deal with individual interpreting settings</p> <p>Acquire sign language vocabulary</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lectures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies 2. Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies 3. Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

Remarks:

1. Shadowing training is a practice to copy expressions nearly simultaneously.
2. Summarizing training is a practice to summarize messages.
3. Sign language interpreters are required, when the Deaf are supposed to give a lecture.

Training Program for Sign Language Interpreters

Practical Course Curriculum

Total 20 hours

Overall Goal

1. Students will be able to provide deaf clients with sign language interpretation according to their understanding.

The aims of training (objectives)

1. To master sign language vocabulary required for interpretation. Target vocabulary: learned 1,200 plus additional 300 words.
2. To master practical sign language communication skills needed to accurately express meaning using the learned vocabulary.
3. To master practical basic sign language interpretation skills using the learned vocabulary.

| | Subject | Purpose (objectives) | Content | Instructor |
|--------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Lecture | Ethics of sign language interpretation and its work (2): 1 hour | Understand ethics of sign language interpreters and responsibilities in specific interpreting settings | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ethics of sign language interpreters2. Interpreting settings and responsibilities of sign language interpreters (including discussions among students on specific interpreting settings) | Certified sign language interpreter |
| | Outline of registration system for sign language interpreters: 1 hour | Understand outline of registration system for sign language interpreters, and be motivated to pass the exams and join activities after the registration | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Registration system of sign language interpreters2. Preparation for sign language interpreters' activities3. Actual situations of sign language interpreters' activities4. Orientation for newly registered sign language interpreters | Administrative officer (in charge of sign language interpreter training courses) Board member of organization of the Deaf |
| Practical Training | Practical training in sign language interpretation: 18 hours | Experience actual sign language interpretation through practical trainings | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Trial interpretation<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case studies2. Interpretation practice<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Application procedures2) Interviews | Qualified lecturer Deaf |

Remark: Sign language interpreters are required, when the Deaf are supposed to give a lecture.