

C-Print® or Interpreters: How do I decide?

A decision about which accommodation to provide is based primarily on the needs of the deaf consumer. So, the easiest way to determine which you need to provide is to ask the consumer what they need or prefer.

You can use the following chart to help with your decision, or can provide it to the consumer so that he or she can make an informed decision about what best fits the need.

Consider INTERPRETERS if:	Consider C-PRINT if:
✓ The deaf consumer prefers it or requests	✓ The deaf consumer prefers it or requests it.
it.	
✓ The deaf consumer needs to access both	✓ The format of the class, presentation, or event
what other's are saying AND needs	is similar to that of a lecture: one or several
someone to interpret what they are	speakers presenting information to a group of
signing. Some Deaf consumers will	individuals. C-Print puts the spoken word into
voice or speak for themselves, and don't	print. While a C-Print captionist can voice
need someone to speak what they are	(read) comments to the group typed by the
signing. C-Print allows a consumer to	deaf consumer, C-Print is not particularly
send a text message to the captionist,	time-effective if the deaf consumer's thoughts
who will read it out loud. Some deaf	and ideas need to get translated from sign into
consumers will choose or need an	spoken language so all may access it.
interpreter to speak what they are	
signing so their thoughts and insights	C-Print can capture group discussion but
can be shared in dialogue with others.	cannot ensure the participation of the deaf
	consumer IN the group discussion. Depending
Be sure to consider group work,	on the complexity of the discussion, there may
dialogue, participation in discussions,	be considerable "lag time" as the captionist
class presentations, "round table"	types what everyone else is saying and the
discussions, meals, interviews, etc. in	deaf consumer then types what he/she wishes
relation to inclusion of the deaf	to have voiced.
consumer as an equal participant.	
✓ The deaf consumer's first or preferred	✓ The deaf consumer's first or preferred
language is ASL (American Sign	language is English.
Language).	
✓ The deaf consumer does not read written	✓ The deaf consumer reads fluently at or above
English well, or at a reading level (both	the reading level (both vocabulary and
vocabulary and syntax) at or above that	syntax) that the speaker or presenter will use.
which the presenter or speaker will use.	
✓ The deaf consumer wishes to take their	✓ The deaf consumer needs or wants a printed
own notes OR a trained note-taker is	version of the discussion or presentation to
available.	use as notes. This can automatically be
	provided from C-Print.