

January 21, 2026

**I'm repeating some info again this month due to its importance.**

Chinese New Year in 2026 falls on Tuesday, February 17th, marking the beginning of the [Year of the Horse](#), a dynamic and passionate Fire Horse year. Celebrations typically last about 16 days, with public holidays often around the first week, and will involve vibrant traditions like dragon dances, lantern festivals, and family feasts focused on luck and new beginnings.

### Upcoming State Holidays

- February 17<sup>th</sup> President's Day

### 2025 CEUS

Only 11 more days left to submit your [Annual Interpreter Continuing Education Compliance Form](#) and proof of attendance for the 2025 calendar year. If not received by **February 1, 2026**, the interpreter will be removed from the Statewide Register of Interpreters.

### 2026 Interpreter Certification Pathway

The Language Access Program has announced dates for the 2026 Interpreter Certification Pathway. Please visit [Interpreter Certification Pathway](#) for more information and to register for Orientation, the written exam, Skill Building, and the oral exam. If, after reviewing the webpage, interested candidates still have questions, they should plan on attending an upcoming informational session where they will be able to ask questions:

- January 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- January 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- February 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- February 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- March 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- March 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm CST [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

*It's easy to share this information with your contacts! Simply like and repost our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) posts!*

### Interpreter Statements

- Effective 1/1/26, mileage reimbursement has increased to \$0.725/mile. Shred all old Statements and use this updated [Interpreter Statement](#).
- You must number all your remote appearance confirmations before submitting your Statement.
- Did you review the corrections made on your Statement? Do you understand why they were made? If not, please ask because we need you filling out your Statements correctly.
- When you do a Probation translation, ensure you clearly note the time it took you on your Statement and that it was for Probation so that cost can be allocated to them.
- Due to the volume of corrections made on Statements, Finance will have the revision emails out by the end of the month, instead of the 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Revisions are any corrections made to an amount
  - If an interpreter leaves the calculations at the bottom blank, they will be tallied and filled in, but this does not rise to the level of a revision and would not necessitate the interpreter receiving a revision email

## Professional Resources

- [ASL court interpreting courses](#)
- December 2025 Cybernews: NAJIT UPDATES attached
- Did you update your video remote display name to first name, last name, the word interpreter, and language? *Example: John Doe Interpreter Kinyarwanda*
- The Judicial Branch's Office of Dispute Resolution has extended their FREE Webinars to us in Language Access! While the webinars are intended as mediator education, many topics will be of interest to us. [HERE](#) is the link to their events page that provides information on upcoming webinars. Certificates and CEUs will be awarded!
- NAJIT Blog *Can Translation Be the Only Route?* In our last conversation on [Judiciary Translation vs. Judiciary Interpretation: Which Path Resonates with You?](#) we explored the question many of us encounter early on: *which path should I choose?* The responses, both spoken and unspoken, pointed to a familiar conclusion. For many of us, the answer is not *either-or*.

## Recognitions

- I want to recognize **Kari Corkle, Amiel Armijo, and Olivia Brockman** for their excellent teamwork and constant support. Whenever we are out, they step in without hesitation and are always willing to help and take over as needed. We truly have an exceptional team, and I am very proud to be a part of it. – *Adrian Hinojosa, Interpreter Coordinator Language Access Program*
- **Keak Kierkuk and Kiki Koute** were professional and well-spoken. Both interpreters were impressive on their interpretation. - *Deputy Sheriff Joe Slavick – Sarpy County*.
- I appreciate how **Amiel Armijo, Olivia Brockman, Cristina Kropf, and Monica Silva Gomez** stepped up and banded together to make such a great video on using the interpreter equipment! This information will help court run smoother and protect our interpreter partners. – *Kathleen Valle, Language Access Director*
- **Mr. Bazan** did a wonderful job for us the other day. - *Chantell Fear, Bailiff in Dawson DC*
- **Kari Corkle** goes above and beyond to put together schedules that value our time as interpreters and allows us to get/give valuable experience to our colleagues. Thank you, Kari! - *Ben Hammar Registered Spanish Interpreter*
- **Maria Reutlinger** was great and really appreciate her helping us out! - *Jessice Aguirre-Marino, Judicial Assistant, Lancaster CC*
- **Irma Watt** is a rockstar! - *Allison O'Neill, Clerk Magistrate, York County Court*

## Tax Documents

State Accounting will mail out the 1099s by January 31st. The minimum amount an individual needs to earn to receive a 1099 is \$600. If you have questions or do not receive your 1099 by the beginning of February, you can reach State Accounting directly at (402)471-2581.

## Did you know?

I didn't grow up in Lincoln and didn't take the obligatory Capitol field trip in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, so when I ran across this [slide show tour](#) I wanted to share it in case you didn't grow up in Lincoln either! The Nebraska State Capitol is beautiful, and it amazes me how symbolic it is. Sit back, relax and enjoy your virtual tour of the 14<sup>th</sup> floor and Memorial Chamber.