

10A NCAC 71J .0108 OPTIONAL RESOURCES/COMPONENT 1

(a) Interpreters may be provided for deaf persons to enable them to communicate their needs and to utilize and benefit from services and community resources that are otherwise unavailable to them because of communication problems.

- (1) Interpreter service is provided for individuals who have a hearing impairment that necessitates reliance upon the use of sign language for communication.
- (2) Selection of an interpreter is based on the client's need and the availability of individuals who can provide interpreter services.
- (3) Prior to the provision of the service, a vendor agreement must be made covering the duties of the provider and the rate of pay. The amount of time provided is based on the recipient's needs; however, if the client will need an on-going or extended period of service, prior approval may be given but not to exceed the individual's period of eligibility.
- (4) Allowable Costs and Reimbursement. Maximum rates have been set by the North Carolina Social Services Commission for purchase of interpreters for deaf persons under vendor agreements. Information regarding maximum rates is contained in policy material issued by the division and is available in accordance with 10A NCAC 71R .0302. When included in a vendor purchase agreement, payment may also be made for round trip travel by the interpreter between his work station and the deaf person needing services. Reimbursement for such travel payment is available up to the state's maximum travel allowance per vehicle mile for automobile expenses.

(b) Telephones may be provided when not otherwise available for aging, disabled or handicapped individuals who are alone and homebound, or who have a health or medical condition which necessitates ready access to or frequent use of a telephone in their own home.

- (1) Telephones that adequately meet the needs of individuals at the lowest cost are sufficient.
- (2) Installation costs, monthly costs or both may be provided, according to the individual's need.
- (3) Long distance calls and toll charges require prior approval by the county department of social services or other provider agency.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143B-153;
 Eff. July 1, 1984;
 Amended Eff. July 1, 1990;
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. May 20,
 2017.*