



Visual Needs



DHH Deaf & Hard of Hearing Tips for Teachers

Follow the links for more in-depth information.

Sightlines

Students function optimally when they can see the interpreter (if they use one) and the speaker in the same line of sight. This saves time and energy from shifting their focus. Especially if the speaker is referencing things visually instead of orally. This doesn't mean the student must sit in the front row, just where they have visual access. Please keep this line of vision clear.



Eye Contact

Maintaining eye contact with the class instead of talking while you are turned toward the board, allows students to read lips, see your facial expression, and understand your body language.

Dual- Tasks

DHH students often struggle to complete tasks which require them to rely on their vision for two things simultaneously, like taking notes while watching captioning, an interpreter, or lip-reading. You can provide accommodations by assigning a note-taker, giving the student a copy of your notes, a copy of the transcript, and/or access to slides.

Direct Communication

Show you value your student as an individual by talking directly to them instead of to the interpreter if they have one.



Just a friendly reminder to make sure all videos are accessible by turning on closed captioning or subtitles.