

At the time of the referral and before conducting the offender evaluation, Approved Providers shall assess the need for interpretation services including foreign languages, specific dialects, and sign language. An Approved Provider should communicate in the client's preferred language to the extent that it supports and improves the client-provider relationship.

The client or the Approved Provider may request an interpreter at any time. If such a request is made, the Approved Provider shall:

- Inform the client of the request and the potential impacts of an interpreter;
- Document the request or recommendation for a language interpreter, by the client, referral source, or Court, and if the client accepts or rejects interpreter services;
- Notify and coordinate with the referral source and allow for an interpreter to be present. The Approved Provider should use an approved court or certified interpreter when possible; and
- Assess if an interpreter is appropriate for maintaining client confidentiality and able to support the domestic violence offender evaluation and treatment process. Interpreters are encouraged to take the DV100 training course to learn more about the DVOMB Standards and requirement.

*Discussion Point: Approved Providers who speak languages other than English are identified on the DVOMB Approved Provider list. The referral source should review the Approved Provider List prior to making a referral when the client's preferred language is other than English. Such clients may benefit from teletherapy in their preferred language or teletherapy in combination with other appropriate modalities.*

In the event that neither an Approved Provider or an interpreter are available to accommodate the client's preferred language, the client may continue to participate if they can speak English sufficiently to engage in the treatment process. If not, the client may also be referred back to the presiding court or parole board with a recommendation for an alternative disposition that is reasonably related to the rehabilitation of the offender and protection of the victim.