



King County

Metropolitan King County Council

Hearing Examiner's Office

(206) 477-0860

hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov

<https://kingcounty.gov/independent/hearing-examiner.aspx>

INTERPRETATION POLICY AND RATES

Overview

As public servants and Metropolitan King County Council employees, the Hearing Examiner provides a public hearing process that is fair, efficient, and accessible to all. Our office conducts quasi-judicial appeal hearings of King County administrative decisions. Our most common types of matters that we use interpreters for are animal control, land use, code enforcement, and for-hire driver appeals.

Hearing Examiner Process

We use consecutive interpretation. We try to schedule interpreters at least a week in advance. To help interpreters prepare, we email our hearing notice and exhibits. When possible, we give priority to interpreters who have worked with us in the past and understand our process.

We conduct our proceedings remotely by Zoom and prefer interpreters to appear by video. Interpreters should join prior to the proceeding start time. The examiner begins the proceeding with guidance on how the proceeding will be conducted with the presence of an interpreter.

Credentials

We strongly prefer credentialed interpreters (meaning certified or registered) by the Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Our use of non-credentialed interpreters depends on reasons for good cause.

Rates

We pay interpreters as follows:

Type	Hourly rate
AOC Credentialed Interpreter	\$75
Non-Credentialed Interpreter	\$50

We pay a guaranteed minimum of two hours.

For time over the minimum, we pay in 15-minute, pro-rated increments.

Cancellations

Interpreters do not receive compensation for a scheduled proceeding where we provide the interpreter with at least 24-hour notice of cancellation.

Conversely, interpreters will be paid in full for the scheduled length of the assignment where we do not provide the interpreter with at least 24-hour notice of cancellation.

Payment

We will email an invoice at the conclusion of a proceeding. Invoices must be signed and returned to hearingexaminer@kingcounty.gov within 10 calendar days of the scheduled assignment.

Once the signed invoice is received, we will promptly process a check to be mailed out to the interpreter's mailing address listed on the invoice.