

# Language Access in Court-Ordered Services Justice Partners and Community Providers



Every day in the California Courts, litigants are ordered to participate in a variety of rehabilitative services, such as counseling, Batterer Intervention Programs, parenting skills classes and substance abuse treatment. When a litigant with limited English proficiency is unable to participate in these services because of a language barrier, there are a variety of possible consequences, including probation violations, contempt of court and loss of custody and access to children.

Effective September 1, 2019, the Judicial Council has developed new guidance and resources for courts and service providers to increase access to these important programs and services, which include a new rule of court, rule 1.300, and form LA-350 *Notice of Available Language Assistance—Service Provider*.

**California Rules of Court, rule 1.300 provides new guidance to courts, depending on the type of relationship it has with the service provider:**

- (1) If your agency has an agreement with the court to provide services, any new or revised Memorandum of Understanding developed after September 1, 2019, should include provisions to address how the language needs of limited English proficient litigants will be met.
- (2) Courts are encouraged to keep a list of private language-accessible services available in their geographic region and to provide this information on a neutral and non-endorsing basis to bench officers and litigants, as appropriate.

## New form LA-350 *Notice of Available Language Assistance—Service Provider*

A screenshot of the LA-350 form. The form is titled "LA-350 Notice of Available Language Assistance—Service Provider". It contains several sections with checkboxes and text boxes. The "Language Assistance" section has checkboxes for "Interpreter", "Bilingual Staff", "Written Translation", "Video Conferencing", "Telephone Conferencing", "Video Conferencing with Interpreter", "Telephone Conferencing with Interpreter", "Video Conferencing with Interpreter and Translation", and "Telephone Conferencing with Interpreter and Translation". The "Other Language Assistance" section has checkboxes for "Other Language Assistance" and "Other Language Assistance". The form also includes a section for "Contact Information" and a section for "Signature".

If your local court keeps a list of providers that offer language assistance, your agency may be asked to submit form [LA-350 Notice of Available Language Assistance—Service Provider](#) in order to appear on this list.

More information and instructions on the use of the LA-350 is available at this link: [Language Access in Court-Ordered Services: Notifying the court about available language assistance](#).

## Looking for More Information and Resources?

Contact:

[LAP@jud.ca.gov](mailto:LAP@jud.ca.gov)

[Language Access Toolkit: Justice Partners and Community Providers](#)

[Language Access in Court-Ordered Services: Notifying the court about available language assistance](#)

[LA-350 Notice of Available Language Assistance—Service Provider](#)