



What do I do when...?

The following are situations that you may find yourself in when you are working as an interpreter. Dialogue in your small group and determine what would be “best practice” in each scenario. You will have 10 minutes to brainstorm. Be prepared to share the key points from your small group’s discussion with the larger group.

1. What do I do when I am interpreting for a parent at an IEP meeting and various staff members begin to have sidebar conversations?
2. What do I do when service providers do not agree with the evaluation results? How do I explain this to the parents?
3. What do I do when one of the parents speaks English and they tell me that they do not need my interpretation services?
4. What do I do when the terminology used at a meeting is too difficult or technical and I do not know how to interpret it to the parents?
5. What do I do when the meeting becomes very emotional for the parent(s)? How do I handle my emotions as I interpret the information for them?
6. What do I do when confidentiality is bridge by a family member sharing information about another family who is also on my caseload?