



## **Sign Language Interpreter Training Program**

### **The Dr. Judy Barnes Honorary Scholarship**

Tyler Junior College's Sign Language Interpreter Training Program began as a natural development of American Sign Language (ASL) courses taught for many years by Tyler resident and member of the local Deaf Community, Frankie Widner. Over the course of time Frankie was joined by other instructors who shared her passion for making ASL accessible to the people of our region. One of those instructors was D.J. Sorenson, who began the first steps in the process of creating a fully accredited Sign Language Interpreter Training Program (ITP) at TJC.

Although, these two women had the vision for the program, it took someone with the credentials and a position at TJC to help that vision become a reality. That person was Dr. Judy Barnes. She was a former student of Frankie and D.J.'s who'd recently gotten her Interpreter certification. The timing was also right, since she had been teaching in the college's Developmental Reading Program and was ready for a change. Dr. Barnes spent all of 1994 collecting data, attending the necessary meetings, and taking care of all the other endless things required for launching such a venture. No mean feat!

In the fall of 1995 Dr. Barnes began teaching ASL I and Introduction to the Deaf Community as night classes and the TJC Sign Language Interpreter Training Program was born. Over the years the program continued to grow, seeing many wonderful teachers and students pass through its doors. The college even began to see the enrollment of deaf students—perhaps because it was now growing its own interpreters?—and the rest is history. While under Dr. Barnes' supervision, the TJC ITP was twice awarded exemplary status by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (2001 and 2005). It is the only program of its kind available in the northeastern region of Texas. Dr. Barnes retired in the spring of 2008 and passed away July 22, 2012. Her legacy lives on in the program she was so instrumental in creating. The Dr. Judy Barnes Honorary Scholarship was set up in Spring 2010. Offering this scholarship in her name is one way of thanking her for her service and dedication to the TJC Sign Language Interpreter Training Program, its faculty, staff and students, as well as the Deaf community in greater East Texas.



# Sign Language Interpreter Training Program Dr. Judy Barnes Honorary Scholarship

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One scholarship will be awarded to a second year student by the

Sign Language Interpreter Training Program  
(Amount TBD)

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION

1. Student must have an overall 3.0 GPA
2. Student must maintain a 3.0 GPA for each semester of the award
3. Application is to be completed by applicant without any missing information
4. Please print or type clearly

## QUALIFICATIONS – Applicants must:

- Be in or beginning their Sophomore year
- Be a declared Interpreting Major
- Must pass the department Mid-Program Exam on the first attempt with a score of 70% or higher.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must provide two letters of recommendation that come from individuals outside the TJC ITP. One letter must be from a person who is Deaf and may be submitted in video format.
- Applicant must submit a signed 5-7 minute DVD demonstrating their American Sign Language skills addressing:

1) Why you have chosen this field

2) Your professional goals

Recording environment and attire should be non-distracting and professional.

- Applicants must submit an official college transcript.

A scholarship committee composed of faculty and representatives from the Deaf/Interpreting community will review the applications. The scholarship will be awarded prior to the beginning of the semester.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_\_ Completed Scholarship Application
- \_\_\_\_ Signed Certification form
- \_\_\_\_ Official college transcript

## CERTIFICATION

- I certify that all information provided is complete and accurate.
- I authorize Tyler Junior College to share or publish my application information and/or picture and give permission to share this information for the purpose of recruitment or public relations.
- I certify that I have read this application and this certification, and I accept all conditions specified.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Application, Cover Letter, Paperwork online: [www.tjc.edu/signlanguage](http://www.tjc.edu/signlanguage) and go to "Related Downloads" to find the pdf's.*

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Aug 15 of each year**

**Please return completed application to:**

TJC Sign Language Interpreter Training Program  
Rhonda McKinzie  
Pirtle Bldg. 107  
PO Box 9020  
Tyler, Texas 75711

For more information: [asl@tjc.edu](mailto:asl@tjc.edu) or 903-510-2774



# Sign Language Interpreter Training Program

Dr. Judy Barnes Honorary Scholarship

One scholarship will be awarded by the Interpreter Training Program  
(Amount TBD)

Please print clearly and answer all questions.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TJC 'A' Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip Code)

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Day) (Cell/Evening)

Employed: \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Current or Most Recent Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Salary/Wages: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Family Income: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Sources/Amounts of Income: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you Head of Household? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you receiving financial assistance? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Mid-Program Exam Scores: \_\_\_\_\_  
Written Eng to ASL ASL to Eng

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Enrolled: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please attach transcript) Spring Fall

Anticipated Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: Aug 15 each year**

Please return completed application to: TJC Sign Language Interpreter Training Program  
Pirtle Bldg, P.O. Box 9020, Tyler, TX 75711

For more information: [asl@tjc.edu](mailto:asl@tjc.edu) (903) 510-2774