

Provincial Family Services

For Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deafblind clients age 5-23 and their families.



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development



Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

FS@gov.bc.ca

www.gov.bc.ca/deafandhardofhearing

Meet the Team!



Michelle Mylchre
Team Lead/Practice
Coordinator



Heather Kinoshita
Family Navigator



Roger Chan
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Lavel Trivette
Family Navigator



Marly Givner
Family Navigator



Magdalene Todorovic
Family Navigator

Provincial Family Services is a program within Provincial Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services that provides integrated and immersive services that reflects a one-stop approach to supporting families with deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind children, youth, and young adults (ages 5-23) and their families across service systems, particularly through periods of transition, such as school entry and for youth and young adults into adulthood. PFS provides support through navigation and direct services to children, youth and young adults and their families.

An overview of services:

- Family and parent connection
- Child, youth and young adult services
- Community awareness and development
- Language and literacy development
- System navigation and access consultation

Access: We will provide access to our services whether you use sign language, spoken English or another language. Please communicate with us your needs and we will ensure our programs are accessible and fit your specific needs. For some of you that might mean booking sign language interpreters, CART or captioning services or request for information to be translated into your language.

Website: www.gov.bc.ca/deafandhardofhearing

Email: FS@gov.bc.ca

Text: 604 809 1547

Technology and high-speed internet required: You must have a personal computer or laptop with camera capability (we must be able to see you especially during American Sign Language sessions) and high-speed internet. MS Teams and Zoom platforms will be the main platforms used. Contact us if you have any questions or need technology support.

Registration: To register for any of the programs below, please email your name, deaf or hard of hearing child's name, age, and which program you would like to register for. If you are new to our program, you will need to do an intake prior to starting any services.

The Provincial Family Services team humbly acknowledges the unceded and traditional territory of Musqueam, Tesleil-Waututh, and Squamish which belong to the Coast Salish Peoples.

FALL 2022 ASL

For families with deaf and hard of hearing school-aged children and youth

American Sign Language Classes

- Did you know that American Sign Language (ASL) is a recognized language in Canada?
- Is your family interested in learning another language?
- Are you interested in having your child/ family becoming bilingual with American Sign Language and English?

We have individual, family, or group sessions available. If you are interested in individual (parents or guardians only) or family sessions, please contact us and one of us will get back to you to organize a schedule that works for you and the assigned staff. For group sessions, check out the timetable below and register the date, time, and level of your preference. If you are not sure of your level, please note the level descriptors below or connect with your previous instructor.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Classes start the week of September 26 and end the week of December 3rd, 2022

Registration Deadline: Monday September 20, 2022, at FS@gov.bc.ca

ASL LEVEL	Schedule
Introductory to ASL Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 pm Thursdays, 5:00 – 6:00 pm
Beginner 1 Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:00 pm Thursdays, 7:00- 8:00 pm
Beginner 2 Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm Thursdays, 6:00- 7:00 pm
Beginner 3 Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 pm
Beginner 4 Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 5:00-6:00 pm Thursdays, 5:00-6:00 pm
Beginner 5 Online Sessions	Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm
Intermediate/Advanced In-Person Sessions at PDHHS, 4334 Victory St	Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 am

If you are not sure which ASL level to register for, please read the last page for class level descriptors. You can also connect with Roger Chan at Roger.Chan@gov.bc.ca to inquire.

Hold the Dates!

Family ASL Weekend	We are collaborating with Surrey School District and Family Network for Deaf Children to provide families with a fun ASL weekend for the whole family.	Friday, November 18 & Saturday, November 19.
Family Storytime in American Sign Language and English with a Deaf storyteller and Children's Librarian	Provincial Family Services, Magdalena is collaborating with Randi Robin, a children's librarian for stories, rhymes, rhythms, and crafts that will be presented in ASL and English. Interpreters will be present.	Saturdays: September 24 October 22 November 12 December 3 11:00-12:00pm at Tommy Douglas Library: 7311 Kingsway, Burnaby. All ages are welcome!

We are working on additional programs so please stay tuned for more information to come!

Which level are you? Here are some basic ASL level descriptors:

Introductory to ASL

Students do not need any prior ASL experience – students can expect to learn the following: manual alphabet, numbers 1-20, basic introductions, greetings & responses, “wh” questions, days of the week, months, colors, “family” vocabulary, and basics of Deaf culture.

Beginner Level One

ASL students will learn more in depth greetings and farewells, learn about the 5 parameters of ASL, facial expressions and non-manual signals, asking for help, questioning, routines, deaf culture and practice simple receptive and expressive phrases.

Beginner Level Two

ASL students will learn background signs, location signs, vocabulary related to personal interests, the states and provinces, cities, deaf culture introduction to aspects of the structure of ASL, colors, possessive signs, technology signs, vocabulary related to addresses and telephones and months of the year.

Beginner Level Three

ASL students will learn signs related to school vocabulary, agent markers, looking at a map and referencing locations, initializations of certain words, classifiers, time, sports and activities, tenses, deaf culture, and practice more advanced receptive and expressive phrases.

Beginner Level 4

ASL students will learn signs about daily routines, spatial organization, frequency, household activities, noun-verb pairs, clothing, describing people, characteristics, health, the natural world, deaf culture and practice long receptive and expressive phrases and paragraphs with details, classifiers, and use of space to describe a story.

Beginner Level 5

ASL students will learn vocabulary related to the home and community, spatial visualization, money, getting around town, work, and study, using “to be”, food, animals, and deaf culture. This level will have opportunities to practice applying what you learned in previous levels into conversations.