

# AAPI Language Lines

a newsletter on aapi and language access resources

AUGUST 2013



## FEATURE

### OAPIA Volunteer Interpreter and Translator Database

OAPIA will be launching an volunteer interpreter and translator database where it will maintain a database of interpreters and translators.

The database is available only to District Agencies who sign up and need community interpreters and/or translators to assist them in communicating with AAPI residents and merchants. OAPIA maintains this database as part of its technical assistance efforts to Agencies.

OAPIA does not guarantee the quality of these interpreters. Once an Agency provides a requested job, OAPIA will send it to the database and see if anyone is available to take on the task. If the qualifications of the respondents meets the needs of the Agency the Agency can choose to use that individual. OAPIA will only be providing this support for individuals who speak an Asian language.

Here is how to secure an Interpreter/Translator:

- 1) Register with OAPIA
- 2) Send a description of the project in the required template
- 3) Contact the interpreter/translator who responds to the request.



## Language Access Program at OAPIA

### Providing Technical Assistance to all District agencies

The Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs' Language Access Program is working towards building a global city where District programs and government services are delivered at a high level. The mission of OAPIA's Language Access Program is to help ensure District Agencies provide programs

The database will be released in mid-September 2013. More information will follow on how to officially sign up. OAPIA is currently not accepting sign ups from Agencies.

If you have suggestion or questions, please contact Neel Saxena at [neel.saxena@dc.gov](mailto:neel.saxena@dc.gov).

and services to DC's limited and non-English proficient (LEP/NEP) Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents and merchants at a high level through technical assistance, policy guidance, and education.

## Language Access Articles

### Reports, articles, resources on Language Access

Below is a list of articles on language and language access related issues and programs from across the country. These articles can serve as references for you to help develop your Agency's language access programs.



### Md. College Settles Federal Suit Over Interpreter Request

### Johnson: How hard is English? How weird?

### Translators need to strike a balance

## Asian American and Pacific Islander Articles

### Reports, articles, resources on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

Below is a list of articles on Asian American and Pacific Islander issues and programs from across the country. These articles can serve as references for you to help develop your Agency's programs and services.



### New report shows deficiencies in Asian American mental health care

### Not Just A 'Black Thing': An Asian-American's Bond With Malcolm X

### Study: Heart disease emerges as number one killer among Indians

ASIAN  
AMERICAN FACT  
8.3% of Asian  
Americans in  
the District of  
Columbia  
have No  
health  
insurance  
coverage.\*

\*American Community Survey.



For more information about OAPIA's Language Access Program please visit <http://apia.dc.gov/service/aapi-language-access> or contact Neel Saxena at [neel.saxena@dc.gov](mailto:neel.saxena@dc.gov)

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