

# Public Outreach: Language Access Multilingual Educational Materials



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
OF CALIFORNIA

OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS DIVISION  
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

The Language Access Subcommittee of the Judicial Council's [Advisory Committee on Providing Access and Fairness](#) is pleased to announce a public outreach campaign to help educate limited English proficient (LEP) court users on common court processes. There are three components to the campaign: educational webinars, direct outreach to justice partners, and distribution of multilingual educational material to ethnic media. You may register for the webinars by visiting the [Language Access](#) webpage.

1. **Conduct language access educational webinar sessions:** The Judicial Council and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) will host a series of language access educational webinar sessions for courts and court stakeholders to promote language access initiatives and highlight LEP community needs to access the courts. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meetings will be held virtually, via Zoom.
  - Overview of Language Access Services in the Courts and Recent Innovations  
**March 17, 2021, 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (PST)**
  - Justice Partner and Community Organization Panel on Language Access  
**April 22, 2021, 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (PST)**
  - Multilingual Public Outreach Resources  
**May 13, 2021, 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (PST)**

All of the virtual sessions will be recorded and posted to the Judicial Council's Language Access webpage for access at any time.

Meetings will be language accessible with spoken language interpretation (available upon request) and will also include American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting.

Request for an ASL or a spoken language interpreter must be made at least seven (7) business days before each meeting and directed to: Kimberly Brooke, NCSC, at [kbrooke@ncsc.org](mailto:kbrooke@ncsc.org).

2. **Direct outreach to stakeholders throughout California:** In May 2021, following the last virtual session, Language Access Services will conduct e-mail follow-up outreach to stakeholders to provide them with a public outreach digital resource guide on how to utilize and distribute the multilingual educational materials located on the [Language Access Toolkit](#) to the communities they serve, including placement on websites, hard-copy distribution at in-person resource centers, and placement on social media channels. The guide will be sent to justice partners, community organizations, court leadership and staff, legal services organizations, law libraries, non-profit legal organizations including the State Bar of California, local/county bar associations, and ethnic bar associations around the state.
3. **Distribution of Materials to Ethnic Media Outlets:** In Summer 2021, the multilingual materials will be further distributed to different multiethnic media outlets. The public service announcements created for the campaign will run on ethnic media in different languages to educate the public about court processes and reach the different LEP communities served by the courts.

# Public Outreach: Language Access Multilingual Educational Materials



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
OF CALIFORNIA

OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS DIVISION  
CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

## Additional Information

The Judicial Council's [Strategic Plan for Language Access in the California Courts](#) states that language access must start before a limited English proficient (LEP) court user reaches the physical courthouse. It must begin with community outreach and education efforts, web-based access, and the utilization of ethnic media outlets to educate the public. (Recommendations 53-55).

The council's Language Access Services worked with the NCSC to develop a suite of multilingual educational materials, including online and print materials, audio public service announcements and videos, to help inform LEP court users across the state about the availability of language access services in the courts and to provide information on basic court processes. The multilingual materials and resources are posted on the California Court's website in the [Language Access Toolkit](#).

Target language communities for which multilingual materials have been developed include: Cantonese, Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. The materials include infographics, videos and public service announcements that are also available in English and include information on:

- ✓ Whether a Court Interpreter is Needed (and How to Request an Interpreter)
- ✓ How to Work with a Court Interpreter
- ✓ How to Prepare for a Small Claims Trial
- ✓ Serving Legal Papers
- ✓ Understanding Fee Waivers

A handout related to Coronavirus (COVID-19) was also developed in multiple languages that offers suggestions to ensure the safety of court interpreters and LEP court users:

- ✓ You and Your Court Interpreter: Staying Safe During COVID-19



The multilingual public outreach educational materials and other online language access resources are available at the links below:

- [Multilingual Public Outreach Materials](#)
- [Judicial Council Self Help](#)
- [Judicial Council of California Language Access](#)
- [Find Your Court](#)



**Contact:** Elizabeth Tam-Helmuth, Senior Analyst, Language Access Services, [elizabeth.tam@jud.ca.gov](mailto:elizabeth.tam@jud.ca.gov).