Job Announcement

Spanish Interpreter
(Part-time)

IRIS – Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (www.irisct.org), a dynamic nonprofit organization in New Haven CT, has an opening for a Spanish Translator in its Legal Department. The position is hourly, and may be part- or full-time depending on clients’ needs.

IRIS is a refugee resettlement agency providing high quality and culturally sensitive assistance to immigrants and refugees in Connecticut. Our goal is to help immigrants establish new lives, regain hope, and contribute to the vitality of Connecticut’s communities. IRIS currently serves clients from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Cuba, Sudan, Egypt, Venezuela, Guatemala and Honduras, among others.

IRIS’s Legal Department: IRIS offers legal services, among its other services. IRIS’s Legal Department provides representation to: 1) refugees and asylees applying for lawful permanent residence, naturalization, and reunification with family members; 2) immigrants filing for asylum; 3) immigrants in removal proceedings; 4) Afghan residents of CT who filed applications for humanitarian parole on behalf of family in Afghanistan after the Taliban takeover in August 2021; and 5) Afghans who were evacuated from Afghanistan after the takeover and resettled by IRIS in the New Haven and Hartford areas. The Legal Department currently consists of six attorneys, each of whom covers one or more of the practice areas listed above, two paralegals, as well as other specialists and support staff.

Description of Spanish Interpreter Position: IRIS is looking for a Spanish Interpreter who can interpret for the attorneys covering cases in the third category listed above: the representation of immigrants in removal proceedings. The attorneys who do this work represent clients as part of the CT Coalition for Immigrant Freedom (CCIF), a New Haven-based removal defense project that seeks to provide universal representation to immigrants in removal proceedings. The Spanish Interpreter will provide both interpretation (spoken) and translation (written) for the attorneys, as requested.

The position is largely New Haven-based but could require some travel to MA or NH, depending on whether any clients are housed in detention facilities. Travel to Hartford will also be necessary for court appearances, on the occasions they arise. The Spanish Interpreter will report to the Director of Immigration Legal Services.

Requirements: The Spanish Interpreter must be fluent in both Spanish and English, and should have the ability to speak and write in both languages. Ideally the candidate will have worked in a legal setting and have familiarity with legal terminology and processes. The Spanish Interpreter should have the ability to handle multiple demands and shifting priorities in a fast-paced environment. The Spanish Interpreter must have a demonstrated commitment to the mission of IRIS and awareness and sensitivity to multicultural issues.
Candidates must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and comfortable coming into contact with other people.

In submitting an application for employment, the applicant grants IRIS permission to check references as well as question anyone who might be familiar with the candidate’s job performance.

Compensation: $21.50 per hour.

**Benefits:** Health insurance (health, dental, vision) is available to regular employees working 30 hours or more. PTO, vacation and sick leave. Holidays are per IRIS schedule. Eligible for 403b retirement plan after 1 year.

To apply, send an email to: humanresources@irisct.org with the following:

- A subject line that says “SPANISH INTERPRETER: [Candidate first and last name]”
- Cover letter
- Resume
- Contact information for two references

IRIS is an affirmative action-equal opportunity employer. Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received and until the position is filled.