



HM Government



Disability Unit

The BSL Advisory Board

Application form



easy
read

Contents

Page

Introduction

4

How to apply

6

Which role are you applying for?

8

Section 1 - About you

9

Section 2 - BSL and you

12

Section 3 - Committee experience

17

Section 4 - Conflicts of interest

20

Section 5 - Supporting statement

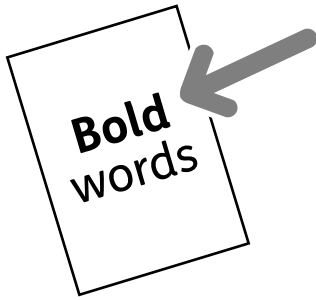
22

Your information

25

Thank you

26



In this Easy Read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction



In 2022, the government made a new law, called 'the British Sign Language (BSL) Act'.

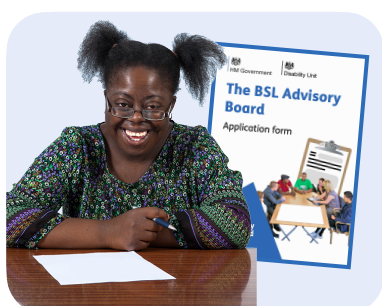


This law says that:

- British Sign Language (BSL) is a language that people in the UK use.
- The government needs to make sure information it gives to the public is available in British Sign Language.



To help us follow the new law, we are making a new group of people who use British Sign Language called the BSL Advisory Board.



If you would like to be in the BSL Advisory Board, please fill out this form.



You can find out more about the BSL Advisory Board here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-to-join-the-british-sign-language-bsl-advisory-board>

How to apply



Please fill in Sections 1 to 4 of this form.



Section 5 is the **supporting statement**.

A **supporting statement** is part of the form where you can talk about yourself and why you are right for this role.



Please look at the document 'Who we are looking for' to help you write your supporting statement.

You can give us your supporting statement by:



- Filling in the form below.



- Sending us a video of yourself signing your answers in BSL.



The video should not be longer than 5 minutes.

Sending us the finished form



When you have finished your form, please send it to us by email, to:

bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk



Please send it to us before 5pm on 2 September 2022.

Which role are you applying for?

Question 1: Are you applying to be...



A member of the BSL Advisory Board.



The **independent co-chairperson** of the BSL Advisory Board.

The **independent co-chairperson** is one of the people who are in charge of the BSL Advisory Board.



If you would like to apply for both roles, please send us a different form for each.

Section 1 - About you



Question 2: What is your full name?



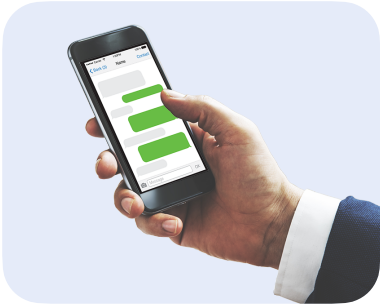
Question 3: What is your full address, including your postcode?



Question 4: What is your email address?



Question 5: What is your phone number?



Question 6: If you have given us a mobile phone number, can you only be contacted by text?

Yes

No



Question 7: If you have a job, what is it?



Question 8: Please tell us a little about what you do for your job.



Question 9: Please tell us the names of and how to get in touch with your 2 referees.

Referees are people that you know or work with that can talk about what you are like to work with.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to write the names and contact information of their referees.

Section 2 - BSL and you



Question 10: Do you use BSL as your first language?

Yes

No



Question 11: Do you use, or have you used **tactile or hands-on BSL**?

Tactile or hands-on BSL is a type of BSL used to talk to people who are D/ deaf and blind. You can use it by touching and feeling parts of people's hands.

Yes

No



Question 12: Are you a parent of a **D/deaf** BSL using child or young person?



D/deaf means the person is either Deaf with a capital d, or **deaf** with a small d. The two are different.



Deaf people have been unable to hear all their lives and use sign language.



deaf means someone who finds it hard to hear.

Yes

No



Question 13: Are you Child Of a Deaf Adult (CODA)?

Yes

No



Question 14: Are you a teacher of D/ deaf children who use BSL?

Yes

No



Question 15: Do you have **qualifications** in signing?

Qualifications are tests or courses you have passed. If you have qualifications you have more chance of getting a job. Employers know you are good at what you do.

Yes

No



Please write your qualifications below:



Question 16: Do you work as a BSL interpreter?

An **interpreter** is a hearing person who signs things that people say.

Yes

No



Question 17: Do you work as a BSL translator?

A **translator** is a person who supports BSL users by signing things that are written down.

Yes

No



Question 18: Please tell us any Deaf organisations where you are:

- A member.



- A volunteer - this means you give your time to help without getting paid for it.

Section 3 - Committee experience



A **committee** is a group of people chosen by an organisation to work on a project.

Question 19: Have you been in:



- A committee set up by the government?



- A committee set up by the council?



- Committees run by volunteer organisations?

Yes

No



Please tell us about the committees you have been involved with.



Please include the dates you started and finished.



Question 20: If you are applying to be Independent co-chairperson, please tell us about times you have been in charge of committees.

Please include:

- The dates you started and finished.
- Whether it was for the government, local council or a volunteer organisation.



Section 4 - Conflicts of interest



A **conflict of interest** is where you being on the BSL Advisory Board helps you, or an organisation you are involved with in a way that is unfair.

This might include:



- Being part of an organisation that is trying to achieve something that the government doesn't want to happen.



- Anything you do that might embarrass the government.



- Being involved in politics, like working for a political party or giving money to a political party.



Question 21: Please tell us any conflicts of interest you might have.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the respondent to provide their answer to the question.

Section 5 - Supporting statement



Please tell us why you want to join the BSL Advisory Board.

We want to know what you will do in the role.



Please read the document 'What each member of the board will do' to help you write this.

You might want to tell us:



- Other jobs you have had that are like this.



- About D/deaf people that you work with in your local area.



- How you will work with, listen to and talk to D/deaf people in your local area.



- Anything else you think we should know.

If you would like to send this in BSL, please send us a video, no longer than 5 minutes, on:



- Glide:
@BSLBoard



- WhatsApp:
07871 989325



- Email:
bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk



Question 22: Please write your supporting statement here:

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border and rounded corners, intended for writing a supporting statement.

Your information



If you don't get picked, we might put you on a back-up list.



If someone has to leave the group, we might ask someone from the back-up list to take their place.



Question 23: Are you happy for us to put you on a back-up list?

Yes

No



Question 24: Are you happy for us to keep your information and get in touch with you with things to do with BSL and the BSL Advisory Board?

Yes

No

Thank you



Please send this form to:

bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk



If you need more information please contact us by email:

bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

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