



HM Government



Disability Unit

The BSL Advisory Board

Who we are looking for



easy
read

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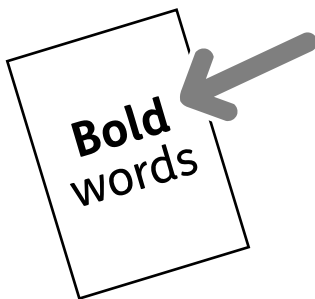
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In this Easy Read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



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.



This information explains how to apply to join the BSL Advisory Board.

The BSL Advisory Board

The BSL Advisory Board will:



- Help to support all of the parts of the government to follow the new law.



- Help make government services easier to use for Deaf BSL users.



- Talk to us about issues affecting BSL users, like getting **interpreters**.

Interpreters are hearing people who sign things that people say.



- Make sure the government listens to people who use BSL when deciding what to do.

Who we are looking for



We are looking for people to join the BSL Advisory Board.

Some of the people we would like to join might:



- Use BSL as their first language, as a **Deaf** person.

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



- Use BSL as their second language, as a parent of Deaf children or as a child of a Deaf adult.



- Have worked as an interpreter.



- Have worked for an organisation that supports people who use BSL.



- Have worked with **D/deaf** children and young people as a teacher using BSL.



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.



- Use **tactile or hands-on BSL** as a first language.

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.

If you would like to apply

If you would like to apply to be on the BSL Advisory Board, please get in touch with us by:



- Email:
bslboard@cabinetoffice.gov.uk



- WhatsApp:
07871 989325



- Sending us a message us on Glide:
@BSLBoard



You need to apply by 5pm on Friday 2 September 2022.

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