# **EASTERN IOWA AIRPORT**



# LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY (LEP) PLAN

Cedar Rapids Airport Commission
The Eastern Iowa Airport (CID)

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# Eastern Iowa Airport (CID) – Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan

As part of the Cedar Rapids Airport Commission's commitment to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and Executive Order 13166, the Eastern Iowa Airport (CID) has developed the following plan to provide meaningful access to its services for individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). This plan will be reviewed and updated on a triennial basis.

#### **Four-Factor Analysis**

#### 1. The number or proportion of LEP persons served or encountered

CID serves a population base primarily drawn from Linn, Johnson, and surrounding counties. According to the U.S. Census Bureau:

- About 9–12% of residents in the region speak a language other than English at home.
- Around 4–6% report speaking English less than "very well."
- Spanish is the most commonly spoken non-English language, followed by French.
- LEP individuals traveling through CID typically reflect the broader region's demographics.

#### 2. The frequency of contact with LEP individuals

CID customer service staff report occasional contact with LEP individuals—most commonly at the information desk, security screening, concession areas, or assisting customers with disabilities. Estimated encounters range from 10-15 per month, with many individuals arriving with a family member or companion who interprets. The most frequent language spoken is Spanish, followed by French.

#### 3. The nature and importance of the program, activity, or service

CID is the second-busiest airport in Iowa, offering nonstop flights to major hubs and seasonal destinations via airlines which include American, Delta, United, Frontier, and Allegiant. Given its regional importance, ensuring equal access to air travel services, public safety protocols, and passenger information is a high priority. The most important service interactions for LEP travelers include security screening, wayfinding, emergency communication, and ticketing.

#### 4. The resources available to the recipient and the costs

CID operates with a mid-sized budget and staffing level. While there is no dedicated translation staff, CID leverages:

- Access to bilingual staff, especially in frontline and customer service roles.
- Tools such as Google Translate, I-Speak cards, and Hands-Up Communication (Interpreter Manager).
- Access to local agencies and airport tenants (airlines, rental cars, TSA staff, etc.)
   who are also subject to FAA LEP compliance requirements and have bilingual staff.

# **Identifying Individuals Who Need Assistance**

CID staff monitor requests for language assistance during public interactions, via phone, in meetings, and during travel disruptions. The airport implements "I Speak" cards and Interpreter Manager through Hands-Up Communication and public-facing staff are trained to recognize and address language needs. All key vendors and tenants are reminded of their FAA obligations and encouraged to coordinate with airport leadership on providing accessible service through regularly scheduled tenant meetings, and many employ bilingual staff in frontline positions.

# **Language Assistance Measures**

- Maintain "I Speak" language cards at all service desks and security checkpoints, through TSA.
- Train staff on how to access Interpreter Manager Hands-Up Communication for real-time interpretation.

## **Training Staff**

All public-facing CID personnel receive training on:

- How to assist LEP individuals.
- Use of language cards and interpretation tools.
- Title VI responsibilities and nondiscrimination practices.

Training is reviewed annually and as part of onboarding.

#### **Providing Notice to LEP Persons**

CID provides notice through:

- A Title VI notice and complaint process link on its website.
- Title VI complaint process available at the customer service desk.
- Non-Discrimination posters throughout the terminal.
- Signage in Spanish at public desks indicating that language assistance is available.
- Contact information on the Airport website to the Title VI Coordinator.

#### Monitoring and Updating the LEP Plan

This plan will be reviewed every three years or more frequently as needed. The review will include:

- Tracking the number of LEP encounters.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of services and tools.
- Reviewing and updating translated materials.
- Reviewing public complaints to improve service.

# **Emergency Evacuation & LEP Accessibility**

In accordance with FAA guidance and CID's commitment to Title VI compliance, emergency preparedness and evacuation procedures in the Airport Emergency Plan (AEP) will be updated to reference this LEP Plan with regard to in the have been updated to ensure individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) receive timely, understandable, and accessible information during emergency situations.

#### **Multilingual Emergency Communication**

CID is in the process of expanding multilingual communication during emergencies by implementing:

- Pre-recorded emergency announcements or utilization of bilingual staff in English and Spanish or the use of bilingual staff for live announcements.
- Updating visual directional signage using universally recognized pictograms and in some case multilingual labels to direct individuals to exits, evacuation routes, and designated assembly points.

#### **Staff Training and Response Measures**

CID public-facing and emergency response personnel receive regular training which incorporates:

- Recognition of LEP individuals during emergencies and providing appropriate assistance.
- Using "I Speak" language identification cards and accessing the Interpreter Manager app through Hands-Up Communication for real-time language interpretation.
- Identifying bilingual staff members, who may wear language identification badges to assist LEP travelers during an emergency.

#### **Emergency Planning and Drills**

- CID conducts emergency drills that include LEP-specific scenarios to evaluate procedures and staff preparedness.
- Coordination with key tenants, TSA, and airlines ensures consistent support and access to interpretation resources during evacuation events.

### **Public Alerts and Notification Systems**

- CID is evaluating the use of digital alert options to display multilingual messaging either through the common use FIDS/GIDS as well as through digital marketing displays
- Emergency preparedness instructions and resources will be posted on the airport's website in multiple languages to increase awareness and access before travel.

## **Post-Emergency Communication**

- Following emergency events, CID will make key safety updates, instructions, and traveler assistance information available in English and other commonly spoken languages or through the use of technologies such as Google Translate.
- Interpretation services will be coordinated at reunification or assistance points for affected LEP travelers.