

May 2025



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter! DO. ALL. THE. THINGS. That's the advice our student in the spotlight has for you this month. And we know you know the magic word. But do you know the magic question?

## Student Spotlight



### Student diplomacy

Jayne Williams, a student at Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), is an enthusiastic cheerleader for the court reporting profession. (In fact, she was appointed 2024-2025 Student Ambassador of the Illinois Court Reporters Association.) She says attending last year's NCRA Conference & Expo was "one of the best, if not *the* best" thing she's done as a student. If you see her this year in Minneapolis, be sure to say "Hi!"

[Read more.](#)

Do you know a student currently attending a court reporting or captioning program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

# NCRA Conference & Expo

## Participate. Cultivate. Celebrate.

Students, start making plans to attend the 2025 NCRA Conference & Expo in Minneapolis, Minn., this July 24-26. There is so much for you to do and learn, and we break it down for you so you can get ready to make the most of it.

[Read more.](#)



## Ask us anything about #NCRAMinneapolis!



Learning, networking, and fun — what could be a better combination for students heading to the 2025 NCRA Conference & Expo. For insider tips and inspiration, watch the National Court Reporters Foundation's *Ask Me Anything* "Get the Most Out of the NCRA Conference," which took place last month over Zoom.

[Read more.](#)

**WE ARE HIRING STATEWIDE  
IN SOUTH DAKOTA!**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM**



\$2,000 new hire incentive and eligible for reimbursement of interview and moving expenses. Salary of \$28.01 to \$29.42 per hour at a minimum, DOE. Graduation from a court reporting school with an RPR Certification and the ability to type 225 words per minute with 95% accuracy. Additional income for preparation of transcripts.

.....> [ujs.sd.gov](http://ujs.sd.gov) (click on job openings)

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## **Student Achievements**



NCRA is proud to offer the Student Fast Lane program to recognize student speed accomplishments. NCRA reaches out to all court reporting programs asking for their assistance in recognizing student speed accomplishments at the 150, 160, 180, 200, and 225 wpm speeds.

[Read more.](#)



*Up-to-Speed* congratulates these students on completing their education!

[Read more.](#)

## **Student Support**

## When did you last ask the magic question?

By Vanessa Johns

*What can I do now to make my life easier in the future?* I've used this question to help make decisions for daily tasks, shopping, and even big life events. So when I started court reporting school, I started asking myself my own version of the magic question: *Does it help me become a court reporter?*

[Read more.](#)



## Mental health and self-care

By Del Rey Honeycutt, Ph.D.

With mental health concerns continuously on the rise, regardless of reason, one thing can be certain – we must do a better job taking care of our mental health and building resilience.

[Read more.](#)





**NCRA**  
**Mental Health Awareness Month**  
**MAY 1-31**

Resources and free webinars are available for NCRA members.



Finding a quality mentor is one of the most important things you can do in court reporting school.  
**Learn about becoming a mentor or finding a mentor.**

## NCRF Career Launcher

### Court reporting firms and schools embrace Career Launcher program: A game changer for students and staff

The NCRF *Ask Me Anything about Career Launcher* held in March was an information-packed Zoom session focused on the deposition training program that is offered to members through the NCRA Learning Center. Students are encouraged to apply for the Career Launcher Student Scholarship by June 13.

[Read more.](#)



**Practice Depositions from the Comfort of Your Home**

Career Launcher is the innovative professional training program designed for anyone who needs a crash course in the life of a deposition reporter.

**STUDENTS!**  
Apply for a Scholarship by **JUNE 13**

**NCRF CAREER LAUNCHER**  
Corinne Clark Professionalism Institute Education Program

## How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

[JOIN NCRA](#) as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, Conference registration, study guides, and more.

[CONTRIBUTE](#) to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

[LEARN](#) about upcoming scholarship opportunities.

## Testing Center

[Written Knowledge Tests](#) | Registration opens June 1 for testing in July.

[Online Skills Tests](#) | Registration opens June 1 for testing in July.

Map your road  
to a new certification!

TAKE THE  
RPR/RDR/CRC/CLVS  
**JULY WKT**



**Register June 1-30**  
**Testing Period July 1-17**

Map your road  
to a new certification!

TAKE THE  
RSR/RPR/RMR/CRR/CRC  
**JULY SKT**



**Register June 1-20**  
**Testing Period July 1-20**

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