

November 2023



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter, *Up-to-Speed*, featuring insights and tips especially for court reporting and captioning students. Dive into the highlights of our recent NCRF Ask Me Anything ZoomUps, and stay tuned as NCRF shifts its focus to Captioners. Explore upcoming opportunities with grants and scholarships and read up on our new Online Skills Test proctoring process.

## Student Spotlight



### Off the back burner

Emily Faulds, of Greenburg, Pa., was initially turned onto stenography by her grandfather, who felt her attention to detail and skills with language would make her a good fit. But it wasn't until years later that, working in the county courthouse, she took the thought of becoming a court reporter off the back burner.

[Read more.](#)

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

## NCRF Ask Me Anything

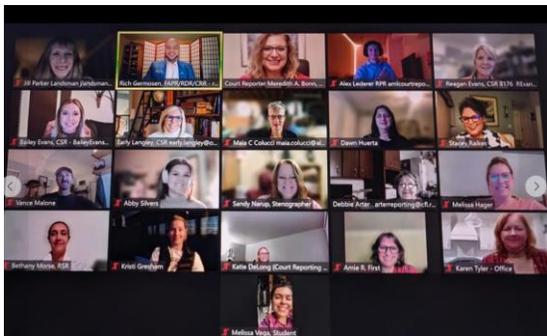
**Focus on Captioners and 2024 AMA schedule announced**

Members are invited to a free panel discussion and a question-and-answer segment at the next NCRF Ask Me Anything ZoomUp: Focus on Captioners on Tuesday, Nov. 28, at 8 p.m. Eastern. Plus, see what's ahead for next year!

[Read more.](#)



## Focus on Freelancers panelists tell all — Practice, preparation make perfect!



Want to be your own boss? Want to choose your clients? Care about your work-life balance? Can you juggle a budget, taxes, and income spreadsheets? Then freelance court reporting might be right for you. Panelists shared the perks of freelancing last month at the third NCRF Ask Me Anything: Focus on Freelancers.

[Read more.](#)

## Focus on Officials gives attendees a front-row seat in the courtroom

Scaling up your court reporting or captioning career takes time and strategy. The view from the top is exciting, and NCRF wants you to succeed in that climb. The NCRF Ask Me Anything: Focus on Officials in September offered advice from officials, administrators, and teachers who know the ins and outs firsthand.

[Read more.](#)





NCRA MEMBERS AND FIRMS  
*MAKING A DIFFERENCE*  
IN OUR INDUSTRY



GET **14** MONTHS  
FOR THE PRICE  
OF **12!**



## 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.](#)

## Student Support

### Approaching realtime reporting school with a positive mindset

*By Geanell Adams*

Positive affirmations, says Geanell C. Adams, RMR, CRR, CRC, CRI, a CART captioner from Raymond, Miss., "are skills and talents that can carry you beyond school. They will become timeless and never-ending pieces of the person you are and will strive to be!"

[Read more.](#)





## Meet the NCRA Student-Teacher Committee

By Amie First

You are probably settled in at school by now and looking forward to the holidays. The passionate volunteers of the NCRA Student-Teacher Committee are already hard at work planning events for next year.

[Read more.](#)

**NCRA** | **VIRTUAL Mentor Program**

The NCRA Virtual Mentor Program is a great way for today's court reporters to offer students the guidance and encouragement they need.

[Learn about becoming a mentor or finding a mentor.](#)

**WE ARE NOW HIRING!**

**SOUTH DAKOTA UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM**

The state of South Dakota offers a competitive compensation package for employees, including health & flexible benefits, a 6% fully-matched retirement plan, 10-12 paid holidays, sick & vacation leave, birthday leave, paid family leave, work-life balance, and so much more!

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

## Grants and Scholarships

### [NCRF Student Intern Scholarship closes Dec. 8](#)

Nominations are still being accepted for the NCRF Student Intern Scholarship. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to high-achieving court reporting or captioning students who have completed the internship portion of their education.

[Learn more.](#)

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE STUDENT INTERN SCHOLARSHIP are now being accepted**

**\$1,000 awards** given annually to **TWO** high-achieving court reporter students who have completed the internship portion of their education.

**Deadline Dec. 8, 2023**  
noon Eastern

[NCRA.org/Scholarships](https://ncra.org/Scholarships)

**QUESTIONS?** Email [jlandsman@ncra.org](mailto:jlandsman@ncra.org)

**STUDENTS, apply by  
DECEMBER 14 for the next  
Career Launcher Grant drawing.**  
You could earn an award that covers your  
10-module NCRF Career Launcher fees.



## December 14 deadline for NCRF Career Launcher Student Grants

Students are encouraged to apply for the National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF) quarterly Career Launcher Student Grants. Interested students can apply for the next drawing by the deadline of December 14.

[Learn more.](#)

## 2023 CASE and NCRF A to Z scholarship winners announced

NCRA's Council on Approved Student Education (CASE) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2023 CASE Student Scholarships. CASE offers five scholarships each year. In addition, 15 students have been chosen to receive the NCRF A to Z® Scholarship prize of \$750 each.

[Read more.](#)



## 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 and grant opportunities.

## Testing Center



## New proctoring process puts NCRA members in the driver's seat

"This new proctoring process is not a test drive. NCRA is handing you the keys to let you drive your own testing experience," said Cynthia R. Bruce, M.S.Ed., Senior Director, NCRA Education and Certification Department.

[Learn more.](#)

### Upcoming testing

- [Registration for Written Knowledge Tests opens Dec. 1 for testing in January](#)
- [Registration for Online Skills Tests opens Dec. 1 for testing in January](#)

### Up-to-Speed asks ...

**Responses to last issue's question:** How did you first learn about the profession of court reporting?

- 47.1% — From a family member/friend
- 11.8% — Through social media
- 23.5% — An online search or ad
- 5.9% — School counselor or teacher
- 11.8% — Something else

What type of court reporting or captioning job are you hoping to be your first?

**CART captioning**

[Select](#)

**Broadcast captioning**

[Select](#)

**Freelance**

[Select](#)

**Official**

[Select](#)

**Haven't decided yet**

[Select](#)

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