



State of New York

Executive Chamber

No. 26.1

EXECUTIVE ORDER

STATEWIDE LANGUAGE ACCESS POLICY

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2011, I issued Executive Order 26 establishing New York's first statewide language access policy; and

WHEREAS, Executive State agencies have successfully implemented the mandate of Executive Order 26, including facilitating the translation of thousands of vital documents and providing countless New Yorkers with oral interpretation services to ensure individuals with limited English proficiency can access important programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the State remains committed to ensuring that language access services are implemented in a cost effective and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the diversity of languages spoken by New York State residents has increased in the years since the issuance of Executive Order 26; and

WHEREAS, New York State's commitment to providing language access services is a reflection of the State's dedication to welcoming and supporting all New Yorkers, regardless of their country of origin or the language that they speak;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New York, do hereby amend Executive Order 26 as follows:

- Executive State agencies that provide direct public services shall translate vital documents, including, essential public documents such as forms and instructions provided to or completed by program beneficiaries or participants. The translation shall be in the ten most common non-English languages spoken by individuals with limited-English proficiency in the State of New York, based on United States census data, and relevant to services offered by each of such agencies. Translation shall be achieved on a rolling basis to be completed no later than August 1, 2022.
- Each such agency shall publish a language access plan that will reflect how the agency will comply with this Order and all progress since it last submitted a language access plan. Such plan shall be issued by August 1, 2021, and updated bi-annually on every August 1st thereafter.



GIVEN under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State in the City of Albany this twenty-third day of March in the year two thousand twenty-one.

BY THE GOVERNOR

Secretary to the Governor