“I Speak” Booklets and Posters for DHS Recipients

“I Speak” is a set of tools offered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) for use by DHS recipients who work directly with the public and who may need to identify the language of the person with whom they are interacting. CRCL offers these tools in support of the requirement to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Upon request, CRCL can provide limited hard copies. Electronic copies are available online along with detailed print specifications https://www.dhs.gov/language-access. CRCL is also available to provide technical assistance to recipients on using these materials in interactions with LEP persons, and on developing a Language Access Plan.

Both “I Speak” formats include 70 languages, based upon a review of a range of sources, including the languages most frequently encountered by DHS personnel. The “I Speak” Pocket Guide includes an additional list of indigenous languages of Mexico and Central America.

“I Speak” Booklet
The “I Speak” booklet is a 20-page notebook designed to fit in a uniform pocket for easy reference while on duty. It includes an index of languages and can include customized information, such as the telephone number for the recipient’s interpretation service and/or other language access protocol information unique to each recipient or unit(s) within a recipient agency.

“I Speak” Poster
The “I Speak” poster is designed for use in public areas such as waiting rooms, disaster recovery centers, or detention facilities. The 20” x 30” poster can also be customized with additional information.

For more information or to request materials, contact crcl@hq.dhs.gov.