

Pro Tips for Using Zoom When Viewing an ASL Interpreter

This brief document will help you access information to optimize your Zoom experience when watching an event that is ASL interpreted or participating in any Zoom meeting/event.

First, this Zoom article talks specifically about how to join and participate in a webinar at which you are an attendee. It takes you through the process of how to ask questions of the panelists, and how the host moderates such questions. Check out this article for more info!

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004954946-Joining-a-Webinar-Attendee->

There are MANY features that you can use to customize how you want to view the screen and the participants/interpreters on the screen.

When you are accessing a webinar, rather than a meeting, you are classified as an “attendee.” Attendees do not have their camera view on the screen which means you might see yourself on YOUR screen, but you will not be seen by anyone else joining the webinar. Similarly, you will not see the other attendees of the webinar, but you will see those onscreen who are classified as “panelists” or “hosts/moderators.”

The host of the meeting will have control of the microphones of the participants in the webinar. Attendees’ microphones will automatically be muted unless the host allows an attendee to talk.

The interpreters’ windows will always be on screen, though usually only one interpreter will be on screen at a time and the other will turn off their video to lessen distraction and allow for the working interpreter and panelists’ windows to become larger. This article gives you a great overview of how to change the video layout. There are several options: Full-screen, Active Speaker, Gallery View, Mini, Layout when Screen Sharing, and how to hide non-video participants.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362323-How-Do-I-Change-The-Video-Layout->

Sometimes, slides or videos will be part of a webinar. In that case, the host’s screen will be shared, or a video will be uploaded, and you will be able to see both the content being shared, and the panelists on the screen (as well as the interpreter). You can adjust the size of the panelists’ windows and the content window using the side-by-side feature and sliding the slider until you get the sizing right for you. This Zoom article has step-by-step instructions for how to do this.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004802843-Side-by-Side-Mode-for-Screen-Sharing>

Sometimes, people prefer to have the interpreter’s window large, and the rest of the participants’ windows much smaller, to do this, you can use the “Pin” feature to keep one window larger than the rest. This Zoom article has information about how to use the “Pin” feature.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362743-Pin-a-Video>

These articles are designed to guide you through the process of using some of the options that can make your webinar experience more accessible.