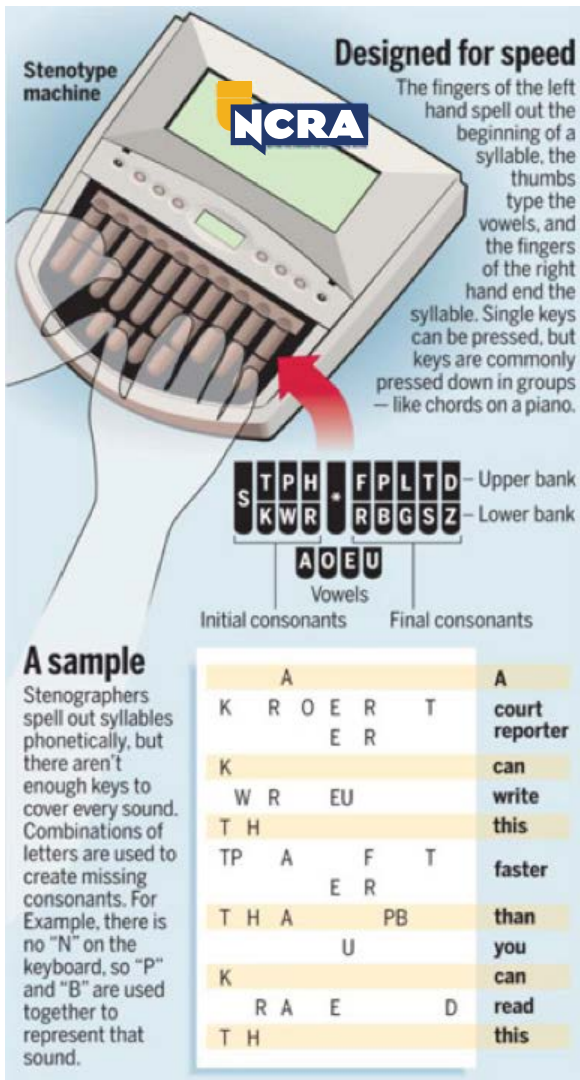


The captioning and court reporting professions are receiving national recognition as competitive and rewarding career opportunities. For those just learning about the field, take a look at some of its notable perks:



## A specialized skill

- Captioners and court reporters convert the spoken word to text using a language called **stenography**.
- Students learn to write on a stenotype machine, which has just **22 keys**.
- By spelling words phonetically, a trained stenographer can record more than **200 words per minute**.

## Job security

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts an **increased need for captioners and court reporters** over the next 10 years.
- **Captioners will be in especially high demand** as the FCC requires the expanded use of captioning for television, the internet, and other technologies.
- The average median salary, according to the BLS, is **\$55,120 per year**.

## Flexibility

- Captioners and court reporters don't just work in court rooms. Stenographers are needed in **sports arenas, television studios, theaters, universities, convention centers**, and more.
- **Career paths are versatile**, providing structure for those who want it and flexibility for those who don't.

## A rewarding career

- Captioning and court reporting are professions that reward hard-working individuals focused on transcribing with **speed, accuracy, and ethics**.
- Since the FCC requires broadcast material to be captioned, more captioners are needed to work in positions from captioning live events to providing services to the **deaf and hard of hearing**.
- From **presidential speeches to high-profile courtroom trials**, the ability to caption and provide communication access to those with hearing loss is vital.

# FUN FACTS ABOUT CAPTIONING AND COURT REPORTING

- The **ampersand (&)** is one of the earliest examples of shorthand.
- Capturing the record of important proceedings dates back to the **fourth century B.C.**
- Annual salaries of captioners and court reporters can reach up to (or even exceed) **\$80,000**.
- Captioners provide services in **sports, education, the arts, and entertainment** for people with hearing impairments.
- A traditional **four-year degree is not required** to become a captioner or court reporter.
- Captioners and court reporters use **cutting-edge technology** to bring the spoken word to text accurately in real time.
- In an **emergency situation**, broadcast captioners can provide vital information to 48 million Americans who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- According to an industry outlook study, there is currently a **demand for more than 5,500 court reporters and captioners**.
- The career offers the flexibility of **working from home** and setting your own hours as a freelancer.

**For more information**, visit [DiscoverSteno.org](https://DiscoverSteno.org)  
or email [schools@ncra.org](mailto:schools@ncra.org).



**National Court Reporters Association**

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