

Private Schools

Humphreys University 6650 Inglewood Avenue Stockton, CA 95207 https://www.humphreys.edu

South Coast College 2011 West Chapman Avenue Orange, CA 92868 https://southcoastcollege.edu

Public Schools

College of Marin 1800 Ignacio Boulevard Novato, CA 94949 https://academics.marin.edu

Cypress College 9200 Valley View Cypress, CA 90630 https://www.cypresscollege.edu

Downey Adult School 12340 Woodruff Avenue Downey, CA 90241 https://www.das.edu

Taft College 5801 East Lerdo Highway Shafter, CA 93263 https://www.taftcollege.edu

Tri Community Adult Education 231 East Stephanie Drive Covina, CA 91722 https://www.c-vusd.org/Domain/447

West Valley Community College 14000 Fruitvale Avenue Saratoga, CA 95070 https://www.westvalley.edu



Merced County is located in the Central Valley of California, north of Fresno and southeast of San Jose. It is 1,978 square miles in size and has a population of over 255,793 people.



Ogletree (Main) Courthouse 2260 N Street Merced, CA 95340

Merced (Old) Courthouse 627 W. 21st Street Merced, CA 95340

Falasco (Los Banos) Courthouse 1159 G Street Los Banos, CA 93635

Merced Superior Court

Locations

<u>Juvenile Division</u> 2840 W. Sandy Mush Road Merced, CA 95340

> <u>Traffic Division</u> 720 W. 20th Str<u>e</u>et Merced, CA 95340



MERCED SUPERIOR COURT



Court Reporter



What is a Court Reporter?

A certified court reporter, court stenographer, or shorthand reporter (CSR) is a highly trained individual whose occupation is to capture the live testimony in proceedings using a stenographic, stenomask or voice writing machine. They produce verbatim transcripts of several types of legal proceedings that can include courtroom hearings, trials, depositions, discoveries, sworn statements, and other settings that go beyond the courtroom.

What is the difference between Stenography and Voice Writing?

Both stenography and voice writing generate a verbatim record of the proceedings. The difference lies in the method used to capture the record.

Stenography is performed using a compact specialized keyboard that contains only 21 letters.

In voice writing, the reporter wears a steno mask and repeats everything said in the courtroom into the mask.





Skills, Training & Licensing

Becoming a licensed CSR requires passing a three-part licensing exam, usually after attending a state-approved court-reporting school.

Court reporting schools offer courses in shorthand, machine, and voice writing theory, as well as speed-building classes to prepare students for the state licensing exam. These programs also include instruction in English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and word usage, along with legal and medical terminology, deposition, and court procedures. Education in legal and medical terminology might open up additional career avenues or serve as a foundation for pursuing higher education.

Career Paths

- Court and deposition reporting; makes a verbatim record of the proceedings.
- Broadcast captioners capture what is being said during live television programs for deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers with software that instantly displays speech as text so it can be read immediately. This includes news, emergency broadcasts, sports events, and more.
- The skills gained on the stenotype machine may prepare you for other career options such as:
 - * Rapid Data Entry
 - * Paralegal
 - * Legal Secretary
 - * Medical Transcribing
 - * Scoping (computerized editing of transcripts for court reporters)

Court Reporters: In-Demand

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, demand for court reporters is estimated to increase by 9% by 2029 across the U.S. Due to this demand, court reporters have become highly sought after, commanding high-paying salaries that often come with various incentives.

For example, currently, the annual salary range for the Merced Superior Court Reporters is \$80,558.40 - \$97,926.40. Through June 30, 2025, the Court has the following incentives:

- Hiring incentive of up to \$20,000
- Recruitment incentive (for referrals) of up to \$10,000
- Retention incentive of \$12,000
- Student Loan Forgiveness
- Technology Stipend

Resources

National Court Reporters Association www.ncraonline.org www.bestfuture.com

California Court Reporters Association www.cal-ccra.org

California Official Court Reporters Association www.cocra.org

Deposition Reporters Association of California www.caldra.org

Court Reporters Board of California www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov