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# The importance of learning in the field of Brazilian Sign Language (Pounds) by students and health professionals

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** With the advancement of the need and inclusion characteristic of the 21st century, the teaching of the Brazilian Sign Language (Pounds) for health students has become increasingly essential in undergraduate studies. Therefore, in this experience experienced by us students who became monitors of Libras at the University of Pernambuco, we sought to expand the knowledge acquired in the perspective of expanding access and preparation of society to the bilingual model. **Objective:** To present the importance of learning in the field of Brazilian Sign Language (Pounds) by students and health professionals. **Methodology:** This is a descriptive study of the experience reported at the University of Pernambuco (UPE) through the extension action of the Auditory Ciranda Program, which offers the academic community 100-hour beginners' pound courses, covering a number of campuses in the state of Pernambuco. The majority of the classes were presences, taking place classes on Saturdays and video-lessons of support. At the end of the course there was an evaluation to analyze the knowledge. **Results and Discussion:** In 2015 there were 1250 students enrolled in two classes that concluded in June 2017. Students approved in the course with grades above 8.0 enrolled to be monitors of the following classes. In total, 126 monitors favored greater assistance, approximation and coverage to the students in the next class. As well as, the pounds constitutes the optional curricular discipline in the other courses of higher education and professional education. **Conclusion:** Learning the Brazilian Language of Signals (Pounds) becomes essential for the formation of inclusive professionals. It is fundamental that every health professional know, dialogue, be bilingual in Libras so that communication occurs with empathy and mutual respect between deaf and hearing, generating a positive and reliable relationship between professional and patient.

**Keywords:** Teaching of Pounds; Pounds at the University; Bilingual Training

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