

## Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements Speakers of Languages of Lesser Diffusion and Non-English Language

A qualified health care interpreter (HCI) must meet all the requirements listed below and provide all the supporting documentation. A language of lesser diffusion (LLD) is defined by:

*A language of lesser diffusion (LLD) may be **the national language of a small country from which a local population has emigrated**, may be spoken by a small ethnic minority, such as a refugee population, or may be spoken by an indigenous group<sup>1</sup>*

See [renewal](#) for renewal requirements for languages of LLD and non-English Language. See [Sign Language](#) for Sign Language qualification requirements.

LLD Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be at least 18-years of age</li> <li>• Must supply a valid copy of a driver's license, passport or other valid government issued ID</li> <li>• Must not be on the Medicaid Exclusion List: <a href="http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/">http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/</a></li> <li>• Proof of successful completion of 60-hours OHA-approved HCI <a href="#">training program</a> or equivalent</li>   <li>• Proof of meeting the minimum required language proficiency by an approved testing center or alternate proof of language proficiency</li> </ul> <p>OR- demonstration of having met equivalent language proficiency requirements (see next page)</p> <p>OR- demonstration of having met sign language proficiency through RID or other approved proficiency exam (see next page).</p> <p>*Email completed application and all documents to: <a href="mailto:HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov">HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov</a></p> <p>Or mail to:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Health Care Interpreter Program Office of Equity &amp; Inclusion 421 SW Oak St., Suite 750 Portland, OR 97204</p> <p>Or fax: 971-673-1128</p> <p><i>*Emailed applications are encouraged</i></p>
<p>Valid for four-years; <a href="mailto:HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov">HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov</a>, 971-673-3378, <a href="http://www.oregon.gov/oha/oei">www.oregon.gov/oha/oei</a>;</p> <p><sup>1</sup> <a href="https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.21832/9781783097777-011/pdf#:~:text=A%20language%20of%20lesser%20diffusion,spoken%20by%20an%20indigenous%20group">https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.21832/9781783097777-011/pdf#:~:text=A%20language%20of%20lesser%20diffusion,spoken%20by%20an%20indigenous%20group</a></p>

## Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements

### Meeting the language proficiency requirements for HCI qualification for languages of lesser diffusion and non-English target language

#### Approved Language Proficiency Tests

##### Language Proficiency of the language of lesser diffusion

- Can demonstrate proficiency in the language of lesser diffusion via the [Alternate Proof of Language Proficiency Application](#)

##### Oral proficiency in the non-English target language (L2) may be demonstrated by passing any of the exams listed below (not expired):

- [Language Line University](#) – Level 2 or above (Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) equivalent, based on website information)
- [Language Testing International](#) – testing is based on American Council of the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) assessment. Advanced mid-level or above. Both the optional phone interpreter (OPI – telephonic) and OPIc (computer recording) are acceptable

##### Oral proficiency in the non-English language (L2) may be demonstrated by passing any of the exams listed above (not expired) plus:

- [National Center for State Courts Court Interpreter Oral Examination](#)

##### One of the following may demonstrate the oral proficiency in the non-English target language:

- Bachelor, masters, doctorate or any other degree from an institution of higher education where instruction is primarily in the non-English language and the person submitting proof is a native speaker of the non-English language.
- Graduation from high school in a country where instruction is primarily in the non-English language and the person submitting proof is a native speaker of the non-English language.
- One of the following tests (subject to change). Test results must be **no more than four years old** to be considered valid:
  - » Interagency Language Round Table (ILR): 2+ from federal government testing agencies
  - » Common European Framework (CEFR): B2
  - » Oral Proficiency Interview at the advanced mid-level on the ACTFL scale

## Sign Language Proficiency

Signed language interpreters may apply to be on the central registry without having a Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) certification by proving proficiency through a proficiency exam approved by the Authority such as the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) or the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI; ASL) with a minimum proficiency level of 4 or advanced.

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Health Care Interpreter Program, Office of Equity and Inclusion, at 971-673-3378 (711 for TTY) or email [hci.program@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:hci.program@odhsoha.oregon.gov).