

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements

Oregon’s Health Care Interpreter Program includes two levels of credentialing (*qualification and certification*). A qualified or certified health care interpreter must meet all of the requirements listed below and provide all of the supporting documentation. See [OHA 2002](#) for renewal requirements. See [Oregon Qualification and Certification for Sign Language Interpreters](#) for qualification and certification requirements. For Languages of Lesser Diffusion (LLD) see [Speakers of Languages of Lesser Diffusion and English Language](#) or [Speakers of Languages of Lesser Diffusion and Non-English Language](#) (LLD) requirements. Please see below for more details about what to include in your application.

Qualification	*Certification (<i>optional</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be at least 18 years of age. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Copy of a valid driver’s license, passport or other valid government issued identification. • Education: Must have high school diploma (<i>or GED equivalent</i>) or higher. • Must not be in the Medicaid Exclusion Database: http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/. • Must have at least 60 hours of formal health care interpreter training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Proof of successful completion of 60-hours OHA-approved HCI training program or equivalent. • Must have language proficiency in English and the target language (<i>see next page for more information on English language proficiency and for information about languages of lesser diffusion</i>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Proof of meeting the minimum required language proficiency by an approved testing center ◊ OR, demonstration of having met equivalent language proficiency requirements (<i>see next page</i>) ◊ OR, demonstration of having met Sign language proficiency through RID or other approved proficiency exam (<i>see next page</i>). 	<p style="text-align: center;">All requirements from the ‘Qualification’ column (<i>left</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Proof of passing a certification test from one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) • Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters • National Center for State Courts Court Interpreter Oral Examination • Oregon Court Interpreter Certification • Federal Court Interpreter Certification exams • Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
Valid for four years	Valid for four years
<p>*Email completed application and all documents to: HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov</p> <p>Or fax: 971-673-1128</p> <p><i>*Emailed applications are encouraged</i></p>	<p>Or mail to: Health Care Interpreter Program Equity and Inclusion Division 421 SW Oak St., Suite 750 Portland, OR 97204</p>

***Certification is optional.** Oral certification test is available in Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Russian, Korean, Arabic and Vietnamese. Certification is also available in Sign language. Questions? Contact the Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program: HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov, 971-673-3378, www.oregon.gov/oha/oei

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements

Meeting the language proficiency requirements for HCI qualification and certification:

Target language and English proficiency

Relay and languages of lesser diffusion:

See [this page](#) for alternate proof of language proficiency relay interpretation or languages of lesser diffusion.

Approved language proficiency tests:

Oral proficiency in both English and the non-English 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
- [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 both English and 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](#)

English language proficiency:

One of the following may demonstrate oral proficiency in English (*for languages of lesser diffusion see [this page](#)*):

- Bachelor, masters, doctorate or any other degree from any U.S. institution of higher education
- Graduation from any high school, or completion of a GED, in an English language speaking country where English is the primary language of instruction
- Graduation from a higher education institution abroad where English is the primary language of instruction.
- One of the following tests (*subject to change*). Test results must be **no more than four years old** to be considered valid.
 - » Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): 570+ on paper; 230+ on computer version; 90 on iBT
 - » Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), Level 4: B
 - » Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), Level 5: B
 - » International English Language Testing System (IELTS): 7.0+
 - » Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR): 2+
 - » Common European Framework (CEFR): B2
 - » Oral Proficiency Interview at the **advanced mid-level** on the ACTFL scale

Target oral language proficiency:

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

Provide proof of passing of 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 (ASLPI) or advanced (SLPI:ASL). Test must not be older than 4-years.