Oregon Health Authority | Office of Equity & Inclusion

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements

Oregon's Health Care Interpreter Program includes two levels of credentialing (qualification and certification). In order to become a qualified or certified health care interpreter you must meet all of the requirements listed below and provide all of the supporting documentation.

	Qualification	Certification
Requirements & Documentation	• Must be at least 18 years of age. ❒ Copy of an Oregon Driver's License or Passport. • Must not be on the Medicaid Exclusion List http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/ ❒ Printout of search results. • Have at least 60 hours of formal health care interpreter training. ❒ Proof of successful completion of training at OHA approved training center. • Language proficiency in English and the target language (see back for more information). ❒ Proof of passing a language proficiency test at an Oregon approved testing center. ❒ **Or**, demonstrate having met equivalent language proficiency requirements. • Have at least **40 hours** of documented interpreting experience (does not include practicum). ❒ Employer letter, documenting 40 hours HCI work experience. • $50 qualification fee payable (by check) to OHA/OEI Health Care Interpreter Program (includes registration fee). • Send completed application and check to: Health Care Interpreter Program Office of Equity and Inclusion 421 SW Oak St. Suite 750 Portland, Oregon 97204	• Must be at least 18 years of age. ❒ Copy of an Oregon Driver's License or Passport. • Must not be on the Medicaid Exclusion List http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/ ❒ Printout of search results. • Have at least 60 hours of formal health care interpreter training. ❒ Proof of successful completion of training at OHA approved training center. • Have at least **80 hours** of documented interpreting experience (does not include practicum). ❒ Employer letter, documenting 80 hours HCI work experience. • Pass *oral and written national certification tests from either the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) or Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI). ❒ Proof of passing both the oral and written national certification tests. • $55 certification fee payable (by check) to OHA/OEI Health Care Interpreter Program (includes registration fee). • Send completed application and check to: Health Care Interpreter Program Office of Equity and Inclusion 421 SW Oak St. Suite 750 Portland, Oregon 97204
Valid period	Three Years	Three years

***Oral certification test is available in 7 languages; Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Russian, Korean, Arabic & Vietnamese.**

Questions? Contact the Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program: hci.program@state.or.us, 971-673-3359, www.oregon.gov/oha/oei . Or call us to schedule an appointment in person. (Rev 1/29/15)

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program
Meeting the Language Proficiency Requirements for HCI Qualification and Certification

Oregon Health Authority approved language proficiency testing centers include:

Language Line University
Passing level: high Intermediate or above
Language Testing International
Passing level: intermediate high or above

Equivalent language proficiency requirements set by the Oregon Health Authority include:

Oral proficiency in both English and the target language (L2) may be demonstrated by passing one of the following:

- National Board of Certified Medical Interpreters Certification test
- CCHI Medical Interpreter Certification test
- Oregon AHEC bilingual Spanish Interpreter Training program (if L2 is Spanish)
- Oregon Court Interpreter Certification test

Oral proficiency in English may be demonstrated by one of the following:

- Bachelor, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from any US institution of higher education.
- Graduation from any High School in an English language country or from an American School abroad.
- Graduation from a higher education institution abroad with English as the language of instruction
- One of the following tests (subject to change)
  TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language): 570+ on paper; 230+ on computer version; 90+ on iBT.
  ELPT (English Language Proficiency Test): 950+
  MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery) 80+
  ECPE (Examination for the Certificate of Proficiency in English): PASS
  FCE (First Certificate in English, Level 3): A
  CAE (Certificate in Advanced English, Level 4): B
  CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English, Level 5): B
  IELTS (International English Language Testing System) 7.0+

Oral proficiency in the target language(s) may be demonstrated by one of the following:

- Bachelor, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from an institution of higher education where target language is spoken
- Graduation from a high school of the country where target language is spoken
- Graduation from a US institution of higher education with a Major in target language
- ALTA Language Services oral and spoken language proficiency test; passing level high intermediate or above.