

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Requirements for Sign Language Interpreters

Oregon's Health Care Interpreter Program includes two levels of credentialing (qualification and certification). A qualified or certified health care interpreter must meet all the requirements listed below and provide the supporting documentation. See [OHA 2002d](#) for renewal requirements. For more information, visit the [Oregon Qualification and Certification for Sign Language Interpreters](#) page. Please see below for more details about what to include in your application.

Qualification	Certification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be at least 18 years of age. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a copy of a valid driver's license, passport or other valid government-issued identification. • Education: Must have high school diploma (or GED equivalent) or higher. • Must not be in the Medicaid Exclusion Database: http://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/. • Current RID (Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf) Certification (National Interpreter Certification [NIC] or Certified Deaf Interpreter Certification [CDI]) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include proof of passing an OHA-approved Sign Language proficiency exam 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). See links on next page. • Include proof of meeting the minimum required language proficiency from an approved testing center. <p>Valid for four years</p> <p>Note: See the OHA Health Licensing Office for Sign Language Interpreter license requirements.</p>	<p>Optional for first-time applicants Required for first-time renewal</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All requirements from the "Qualification" column</p> <p style="text-align: center;">And</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have at least 60 hours of formal health care interpreter training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include proof of successful completion of 60 hours of training in an OHA-approved HCI training program. <p>Valid for four years</p> <p>Note: By first renewal, qualified Sign Language interpreters must complete a 60-hour OHA approved health care interpreter training program, along with other renewing requirements.</p> <p>Note: See the OHA Health Licensing Office for Sign Language Interpreter license requirements.</p>

Email completed application and all documents to:
HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Emailed applications are preferred.

Or fax: 971-673-1128

Questions? Contact the Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program: HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov, 971-673-3378, www.oregon.gov/oha/oei.

Or mail to:

Health Care Interpreter Program
Equity and Inclusion Division
421 SW Oak St., Suite 750
Portland, OR 97204

Language proficiency requirements for HCI qualification and certification

Sign Language proficiency

Provide proof of passing an OHA-approved proficiency exam such as:

- The [American Sign Language Proficiency Interview \(ASLPI\)](#) with a minimum proficiency level of 4
- The Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI: ASL) with a minimum proficiency level of advanced. This exam is available from:
 - [Bridges Oregon](#)
 - [The North Carolina American Sign Language Teachers Association](#)

The test must not be more than 4 years old for first-time applicants. For more detail, see the [Oregon Qualification and Certification for Sign Language Interpreters](#) page.

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 (must not be expired):

- [Language Line University](#) – Level 3+ 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

Language proficiency for English and the non-English language can be demonstrated by showing proof of passing the [National Center for State Courts Court Interpreter Oral Examination](#).

English language proficiency

One of the following may demonstrate oral proficiency in English:

- 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 a 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 for first-time applicants:
 - 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

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Health Care Interpreter Program, Equity and Inclusion Division, at 971-673-3378 or email HCI.Program@odhsoha.oregon.gov. We accept all relay calls.