

# Interpreter FAQs 2025

## **What's the difference between certified and qualified?**

**Certified** means an interpreter who meets one of the following:

Is certified under the program established under ORS 45.291

Is certified as an interpreter by the federal courts

Is certified as an interpreter in another state that has a certification program that is equivalent to the program established under ORS 45.291.

**Qualified** means a person who:

Is not certified under ORS 45.291, but is readily able to communicate with the non-English-speaking person and who can orally transfer the meaning of statements to and from English and the language spoken by the non-English-speaking person.

WCB must hire certified court interpreters first. If a certified interpreter is unavailable, a qualified interpreter will be hired.

## **Who pays the interpreter?**

WCB pays for the interpreter when interpretation services are provided by WCB. A WCB contractor must perform interpretation services for hearings.

## **What does non-English speaking person mean?**

Non-English-speaking person means a person who, by reason of place of birth or culture, speaks a language other than English and does not speak English with adequate ability to communicate effectively in the proceedings.

## **What does a disabled person mean?**

Disabled person means a person who cannot readily understand the proceedings because of deafness or a physical hearing impairment, or cannot communicate in the proceedings because of a physical speaking impairment

## **Do interpreters get paid for mediations?**

Yes, interpreters are paid an eight-hour minimum for mediations. The amount they are paid depends on the language type. For example: A Court Certified Spanish Interpreter is paid \$75 an hour.