



Focus Group on Interpreter Education

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Accreditation Task Force



Goal of Session:

To assist the IMIA Accreditation Development we would like to get feedback from trainers in the field on interpreter pre-requisites, curriculum, and exit requirements.



Ground Rules:

- One speaker at a time
- All opinions are valid
- New topics will be put on a parking lot
- This is just the beginning, more feedback will be requested.



These questions are to ascertain what the MINIMUM (curriculum/entry/exit) requirements should be (versus desired) for a training program to be accredited.



Certification Pre-requisite Requirements:

Age:

18 years of age

General Education:

High School or GED

Interpreter Education:

Graduation of program with minimum 40 hours



Certification Pre-requisite Requirements:

- **Oral proficiency in English** One of the following:
- **Bachelor, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from any US institution of higher education.**
- **Graduation from any High School from an English language country or from an American School abroad.**
- **One of the following tests (subject to change)**
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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+



Certification Pre-requisite Requirements:

- **Oral proficiency in other language(s) -- referred here as “L2”**

One of the following:

- Bachelor, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from an institution of higher education where L2 is spoken
- Graduation from a high school of the country where L2 is spoken
- 15+ semester credit hours of L2
- ACTFL Oral Exams (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages): 3.5 + /Advanced Mid Level (see www.actfl.org)



Pre-requisite Requirements:

What should be the entry requirements for a basic training program for medical interpreters?



Pre-requisite Requirements:

- Is this a minimum requirement or a desired feature?
- How do we measure if and how a training organization is requiring this?
- How do we measure if candidates accepted meet the entry requirements posted?



Pre-requisite Requirements:

- Is this a minimum requirement or a desired feature?
- How would we measure if and how a training organization is requiring this?
- How do we measure if candidates accepted meet the requirements posted?



Curriculum Accreditation Standards



Certification Written Exam Content:

- **Medical Terminology (largest section) – not translation of terms, but understanding of terminology- in English**
- **Roles of the Medical Interpreter**
- **Medical Interpreter Ethics**
- **Cultural Competence**
- **Medical Specialties**
- **Interpreter Standards of Practice (IMIA, CHIA, NCIHC)**
 - [CHIA Standards of Practice](#)
 - [IMIA Standards of Practice](#)
 - [NCIHC Standards of Practice](#)
- **Legislation and Regulations (HIPAA, CLAS)**
 - <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/index.html>
 - <http://www.omhrc.gov/assets/pdf/checked/finalreport.pdf>



Knowledge Based Curriculum Content:

- Is covering this content a minimum requirement or a desired feature?
- How do we measure if and how a training organization is covering this content?
- Is there any content that is not covered in certification that should be required in accreditation?



Certification Oral Exam Content:

- Linguistic proficiency in both working languages
- Consecutive Interpreting skills in context
- Sight Translation skills from English into other language
- Knowledge of Medical Terminology and Specialties within context in both languages
- Cultural Competence

Note:

CCHI Certification also tests for Simultaneous Interpreting and Written Translation



Knowledge Based Curriculum Content:

- Is covering this content a minimum requirement or a desired feature?
- How do we measure if and how a training organization is covering this content?
- Is there any content that is not covered in certification that should be required in accreditation?



Exit Requirements Questions



Exit Requirements:

- What should be the exit requirements for a basic training program for medical interpreters?
- Should graduates have a Certificate of Attendance or Certificate of Successful Completion?
- How do we measure if and how a training organization is requiring mastery of knowledge areas?
- How do we measure if and how a training organization is requiring mastery of skills areas?



Questions?

Further feedback, please email to:

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