



National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters

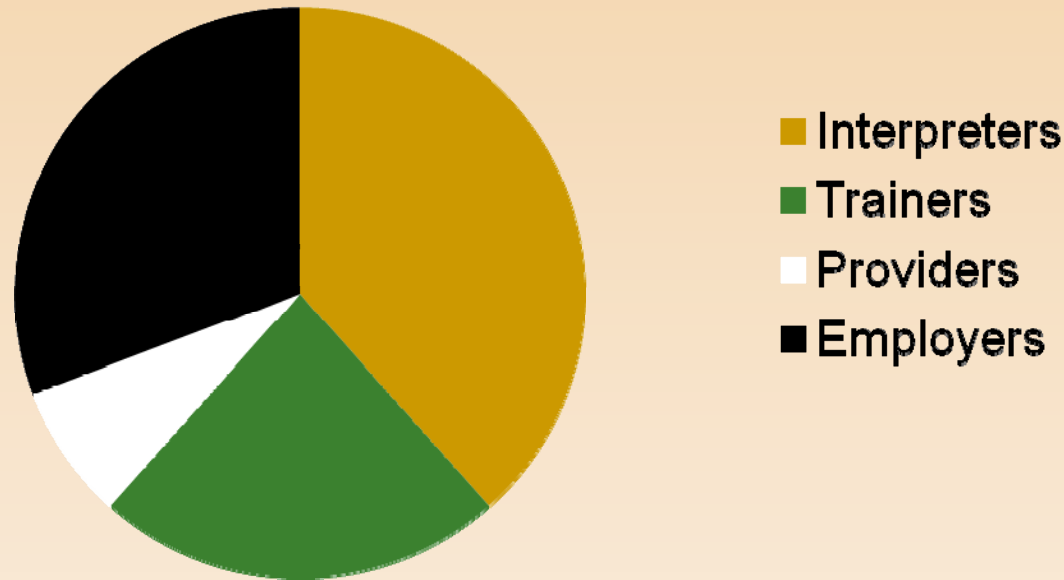
What every interpreter needs to know to get certified



INDEPENDENT

- The National Board is the independent certifying entity representing a cross-section of industry stakeholders

Number on Board



At Last – National Certification for Medical Interpreters!



- Registration for National Certification Launched October 2009





WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE CERTIFIED?

Certification: To go through a process where a certifying body certifies that you meet a specified standard, based on a series of requirements, including passing certification exams

Certificate: Completed a course of study or training in interpreting, and received a ***certificate*** of completion



PREREQUISITES

Interpreters with 1 year proven work experience through employer letter (this offer will expire in May, 2011).

Interpreters with less than 1 year proven work experience:

- ❑ **Age:** at least 18 years old
- ❑ **General education:** Minimum High School Diploma or equivalent
- ❑ **Medical interpreter education:** At least 40 hours program
- ❑ **Oral proficiency:** in English and the other language: High school or higher education or ACTFL LTI Exam at Advanced Mid level minimum.

PROCESS FOR CERTIFICATION



Step 1 **Register** - Fee \$30

Step 2 Take the National Board **Written Exam** (in English)
Fee \$150 (\$75 for those who participated in the pilots)

Step 3 *Depending on the non-English working language*
Take the **National Board Oral Exam**
Fee \$250

Step 4. Get Recertified (Available Fall of 2014)

Every 5 years – no retesting required/ proof of 3.0 CEUs

NOTE: All fees are payable to the National Board and go towards processing registration, administering the exams, or further development of new test versions.



CREDENTIALS

1. CERTIFIED MEDICAL INTERPRETER (CMI)
 - Successful completion of certification process with written & oral exams
 - ✓ *Initially available in Spanish. In 2010 it will be available in 21 more languages, eventually expanding to 30*

2. QUALIFIED MEDICAL INTERPRETER (QMI)
 - Successful completion of process with written & qualification exams
 - ✓ *For minority languages done in partnership with other national testing providers*

3. SCREENED MEDICAL INTERPRETER (SMI)
 - Successful completion of process with written & review of portfolio (similar to Canadian & Australian recognition processes)
 - ✓ *For newly emerging languages*



TOP 22 LANGUAGES

Spanish is available now

Arabic

Bosnian

Cambodian (Khmer)

Cantonese

Croatian

Farsi

French

German

Haitian Creole

Hmong

Italian

Japanese

Korean

Mandarin

Polish

Portuguese

Russian

Serbian

Somali

Spanish

Tagalog

Vietnamese

TESTING SITES:

PSI LOCATIONS: www.psonline.com

All interpreters, all languages, 600 locations





VALID

The National Board certification exams underwent SME review and pilot testing for both the oral and written exams. Questions were added, re-written, or thrown out in the process of validating the exams.





JOB ANALYSIS

- Exams met matrix from the National Job Analysis that was completed in January 2009
- International job analysis has now launched





WRITTEN EXAMS TOPICS

-Exam is in English

- Medical Terminology – not translation of terms, but understanding of terminology
 - 75% of exam is medical terminology
- Roles of the Medical Interpreter
- Medical Interpreter Ethics
- Cultural Awareness
- Medical Specialties
- Interpreter Standards of Practice (IMIA, CHIA, NCIHC)
- Legislation and Regulations (HIPAA, CLAS)

Note: Content is based on Job Analysis Data statistics.



Subtopics Covered in Ethics

- Confidentiality
- Accuracy and completeness
- Impartiality
- Conflict of Interest
- Scope of Practice, Role Boundaries
- Disqualification/Impediments to Performance
- Professional Courtesy
- Professional Development

Note: Content is based on 2009 Job Analysis Data statistics.

Subtopics - Medical Terminology



- Medical Tests and Diagnostics
- Medical Apparatus
- Pharmacology
- Pathologies
- Symptomatology
- Anatomy
- Musculoskeletal System
- Endocrine
- Respiratory
- Cardiovascular
- Urinary
- Nervous
- Digestive
- Reproductive
- Integumentary (skin)
- Treatments
- Acronyms and Abbreviations

Note: Content is based on Job Analysis Data statistics

Subtopics - Medical Specialties



- OB/GYN & Genetic Counseling
- ENT
- Pediatrics
- Emergency medicine
- Oncology
- Surgery
- Orthopedics
- Radiology
- Nutrition Counseling
- Endocrinology
- Ophthalmology
- Neurology
- Psychiatry

Note: Content is based on Job Analysis Data statistics.



Sample question on the written test

If a patient has renal failure, this means that he/she has a disease primarily related to:

1. The pancreas
2. The kidneys
3. The liver
4. The spleen



SKILLS ASSESSED ON ORAL EXAMS

- 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 Awareness

Note: Content is based on Job Analysis Data statistics.

ORAL EXAM



- The oral test will be proctored at various sites using web technology
- The test will take 40 minutes
 - 12 mini-scenarios - 30 minutes
 - 1 sight translation - 10 minutes
- Covers same subject matter as described previously – all topics are based on the job analysis



Sample oral exam scenario to interpret consecutively:

- What brings you to the emergency room today?
- *I feel a sharp pain in my chest (in other language).*
- When did it start?
- *This morning at two (in other language).*
- Is the pain constant or does it come and go? Does it radiate to your arms or legs?
- *It's a tight and localized pain (in other language).*
- I will examine you and also order an EKG and some blood tests.
- *Thank you. I need something to make me feel better (in other language).*



Sample sight translation

Skin care and hygiene instructions:

- Apply a hypoallergenic lotion twice a day.
- Keep your skin clean, such as with a daily shower. This can help reduce the possibility of infection.
- Keep your hands clean. Wash your hands frequently, especially before taking care of your catheter.
- Avoid direct sun exposure on your skin.
- Take your medicine for eczema as directed.

CREDIBLE



INSTITUTE FOR CREDENTIALING EXCELLENCE (ICE) formerly (NOCA)

- National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) is the body of ICE that regulates and accredits certification programs nationwide, promoting excellence and quality certification processes.
- Our ICE consultant has been guiding us every step of the way

Why are we seeking ICE accreditation?

- To ensure the quality of the certification process
- To gain state, federal and national recognition

GET CERTIFIED!



You will:

- distinguish yourself from your colleagues
- show future employers your national qualifications
- help the profession by promoting certified interpreters
- let others know about national certification
- explain the risks of working with non-certified interpreters
- raise the standards of the profession through certification
- Add your new credentials to your communications, i.e.
 - John Stravisky, CMI



GET INVOLVED

- Please visit: www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org
- Join our mailing list
- Attend the May 1st event in Washington DC
- **FACEBOOK**- **National Medical Interpreter Certification**
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/National-Medical-InterpreterCertification/160628377797>
- **TWITTER**-**NatboardCMI** <http://twitter.com/@natboardcmi>
- **LINKEDIn**: **National Certification for Medical Interpreters**
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1872264&trk=hb_side_g

Resources to prepare for your exams



- Become familiar with the recognized Interpreter Standards of Practice, Codes of Ethics and the CLAS standards:

CHIA Standards of Practice: <http://chiaonline.org/content/blogcategory/40/114/>

IMIA Standards of Practice: <http://www.imiaweb.org/standards/standards.asp>

IMIA Code of Ethics: <http://www.imiaweb.org/code/default.asp>

NCIHC Standards of Practice:

<http://data.memberclicks.com/site/ncihc/NCIHC%20National%20Standards%20of%20Practice.pdf>

NCIHC Code of Ethics:

<http://data.memberclicks.com/site/ncihc/NCIHC%20National%20Code%20of%20Ethics.pdf>

CLAS Standards:

<http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl=2&lvlID=15>

(Standards 4-7 - language access)



More Study tips

- Study medical terminology, there are many free medical glossaries and dictionaries online, for example the Merck Manual at www.merck.com/mmhe/index.html and medical glossaries in several languages for a cost at www.xculture.org/catalog/index.php?cPath=24
- Health information in many languages: <http://www.healthinfotranslations.com/>
- Links to over 2,000 medical dictionaries and glossaries in 23 languages: <http://www.interfold.com/translator/medsites.htm>

Basic medical information and Human Anatomy



- Go to MedlinePlus <http://medlineplus.gov/> sponsored by the U.S. Library of Medicine and Institute of Health – interactive, with sound, in English and Spanish
- www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Pages/bodymap.aspx?r=1&rttitle=Health+Encyclopaedia (A-Z, body & subject indexes)
- <http://health-pictures.com> (Medical pictures and definitions)



For the oral exam:

- CCCS Interpreter Training materials

http://www.cccsorg.com/resources/purchase_tools.html

- ACEBO Interpreter Training materials

<http://www.acebo.com/pinfo.htm>

- Medical Spanish and Spanish grammar review: podcasts

<http://www.medicalspanishpodcast.com/Welcome>



Find and attend workshops, conferences and trainings – Join your local association

- ❑ To see interpreter trainings available in your state or online programs, go to:
<http://www.imiaweb.org/education/trainingnotices.asp>
- ❑ To see interpreter conferences in your area, go to:
<http://www.imiaweb.org/events/default.asp>
- ❑ Join your local interpreter/translator association and attend meetings

Regulations and Guidelines



- **The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Privacy Rule**

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/

- **Title VI and the Civil Rights Act of 1964**

www.LEP.gov

- **HHS Office of Civil Rights**

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/>

Cultural Awareness



- The Cross Cultural Health Program
<http://www.xculture.org/>
- Diversity RX
<http://www.diversityrx.org/>
- HHS Office of Minority Health -Cultural Competency
<http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/templates/browse.aspx?lvl= 1&lvlID=3>
- EthnoMed
<http://ethnomed.org/>

Acronyms Glossary



- IMIA – International Medical Interpreters Association
- CHIA – California Healthcare Interpreting Association
- NCIHC – National Council on Interpreting in Health Care
- ICE – Institute for Credentialing Excellence
(Formerly NOCA – National Organization for Competency Assurance)
- NCCA - National Commission for Certifying Agencies
- ACTFL – American Council of Teaching of Foreign Languages
- HIPPA - The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- CLAS - Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services