

Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program Overview

The Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program is committed to improving access to quality health care interpretation for Limited English-speaking persons in Oregon. Oregon’s Health Care Interpreter Certification Program includes a registry and two levels of credentialing (qualification and certification), as specified in ORS 413.550 to 413.558, and OAR 333-002.

	Registration	Qualification	Certification
Definition	Registration enrolls the individual in Oregon’s central database of people providing health care interpreting services in the state. The State makes no claims as to the competence of registered interpreters who are not Qualified or Certified.	A qualified health care interpreter is an individual who has demonstrated proficiency in both English and a second language, and has met formal training and experience requirements. Qualification is available to interpreters in any language for which proficiency testing is available.	Certification is the highest level of credential available from the State and is achieved by oral and written examination along with formal training and experience. Certification establishes interpreting skills and medical knowledge as well as language proficiency.
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 18 years of age • High school diploma or GED from an accredited school in the United States of America, or an equivalent diploma from another country. • Review online orientation materials and agree to abide by National Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics for Health Care Interpreters. • Fluent in English and another language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet all of the requirements for registration plus: • Have at least 60 hours of formal health care interpreter training. • Have at least 40 hours of documented interpreting experience • Pass a language proficiency evaluation test from an Oregon approved testing center – or demonstrate having met equivalent language proficiency requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet all of the requirements for qualification plus: • Have at least 80 hours of documented interpreting experience (40 hours additional to the qualification requirement) • Pass oral and written national certification tests from either the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) or Certification Commission for Health Care Interpreters (CCHI)
Costs	\$25 application fee payable to OHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25 application fee payable to OHA • Language proficiency testing fee payable directly to the OHA approved language testing center • Training fees payable directly to training programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30 application fee payable to OHA • Certification testing fees payable to the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) or Certification Commission for Health Care Interpreters (CCHI)
Valid period	One year	Three Years	Three years

Questions? Contact the Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program: hci.program@state.or.us; 971 673-1286; or www.interpreters.oregon.gov (Rev 7/27/12)

For more information please contact:

Health Care Interpreter Program

Office of Equity and Inclusion

(971) 673-1286

hci.program@state.or.us

website: www.interpreters.oregon.gov



Oregon Health Care Interpreter Program

