



## **NAATI EXAMINERS**

### **CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT**

Examiners are recruited according to a range of criteria including expertise in a language other than English and in English, qualifications and/or experience in translation and interpreting, tertiary qualifications preferably in a related field, references in relation to competency and character and length of residence in Australia. NAATI reserves the right to amend the criteria at any time.

Specifically, the criteria are:

#### **1. Qualifications and Expertise**

Examiners should have:

- 1.1 Tertiary qualifications in any discipline but preferably in translation & interpreting, language or linguistics.
- 1.2 Native/near-native competence in the Language A and near-native competence in Language B
- 1.3 NAATI accreditation as a Translator or Interpreter at the professional level or above or otherwise eminent status as an academic in the relevant language or skill area.
- 1.4 Substantial experience as an accredited practitioner in interpreting and/or translation.
- 1.5 Substantial knowledge of Australian social structures (government, health, legal, etc) and their importance to T & I practice
- 1.6 Some experience in examining or educational measurement and assessment, if not through an interpreting/translation course then in another related academic capacity

#### **2. Other Factors**

Examiners should:

- 2.1 Be capable of working as a team.
- 2.2 Be of good character.
- 2.3 Be legally able to work in Australia
- 2.4 Be able to demonstrate continuing contact with the language and culture other than English, thus maintaining "currency of knowledge" in each.
- 2.5 Have access to a range of resources which will facilitate the setting and marking of tests (eg. library resources, access to current newspapers and magazines in the language other than English, internet access, email

facilities, fonts appropriate to the language other than English, tape recorders).

- 2.6 Have a sound understanding of the interpreting and translation profession in Australia.
- 2.7 Be able to provide two professional references
- 2.8 Demonstrate a willingness to make a commitment, in terms of available time, to NAATI and to be punctual in meeting task deadlines.
- 2.9 Be willing to undergo NAATI training
- 2.10 Be able to demonstrate a level of commitment to Continuing Professional Development
- 2.11 Have no demonstrable political, cultural or ethical bias

### **3. Special Criteria for Chairpersons**

In addition to the above criteria, Chairpersons of NAATI Examiner Panels need to demonstrate:

- 3.1 Sound administrative and delegatory skills.
- 3.2 A knowledge of and commitment to NAATI policies and procedures
- 3.3 Independence and integrity in adjudicating test results.
- 3.4 Excellent interpersonal communication skills to facilitate management of panel members.

### **4. Other Information**

- 4.1 For language groups which are well established in Australia and for which NAATI has offered accreditation testing for many years, tertiary qualifications, NAATI accreditation and practical experience in T & I are essential criteria.
- 4.2 For languages of low demand, languages for which there is a low supply of professionally accredited practitioners or languages for which NAATI is trying to establish a new panel, NAATI accreditation may not be possible. In such cases, academic qualifications and practical experience are the primary criteria. Examiners without NAATI accreditation or with accreditation at the paraprofessional level are expected to obtain it or upgrade within a period of five years after appointment to the panel.
- 4.3 Individual examiners may not meet all the required criteria, but they will meet several of them. The panel as a whole should possess all the required criteria.
- 4.4 Examiners wishing to sit for accreditation tests after appointment to a panel are required to step down from the panel for a period of one year, during which he/she may sit for a test. Examiners wishing to sit accreditation tests in languages other than the one for which he/she is a panel member, may do so in accordance with NAATI policies and procedures that apply to all candidates.
- 4.5 Automatic accreditation on the basis of examiner panel membership is not possible. NAATI accreditation is only awarded on the basis of a measure of competency, either through the NAATI examination system or by examinations at the end of a formal T & I training course.

- 4.6 Vacancies on panels are at all times filled by persons possessing the skills left lacking on the panel - ie. practitioners/academics/native English speakers/native speakers of other language. Such persons may only be appointed by the NAATI Board of Directors. The chairperson or members of the Examiner Panel do not have the right to co-opt additional members.