



Certification Scheme Design Summary

It is important that this document is not read in isolation. It should be read in conjunction with the following:

1. **KSA's for Translators and Interpreters:** The KSA discussion papers set out the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for professional practice in detail.
2. **Certification Model:** This model identifies the types and interrelationships between credentials to be awarded.
3. **Descriptors for Translator and Interpreter Credentials:** The descriptors provide information about the competencies associated with each type of credential in the Certification Model.

The NAATI certification scheme has been designed after considering the knowledge, skills and attributes identified as necessary for professional practice. It is made up of three components:

1. **Satisfying the prerequisites:** these are the criteria you need to meet in order to be eligible for the certification test.
2. **Passing the certification test:** this is a performance based test of your translation or interpreting skills. If you are successful in passing this test, you will be awarded certification.
3. **Satisfying the recertification requirements:** Once you have been awarded certification, you will be required to meet certain criteria every three years in order to retain it. If you cannot meet these requirements, your certification will expire.

Some prerequisite pathways will require you to meet NAATI standards for language, ethical and/or intercultural competencies. These may include:

- **Language competency:** meeting the English proficiency standard set by NAATI. This may require sitting a formal English proficiency test (e.g. IELTS).
- **Intercultural competency:** completing specialised training or passing the NAATI Intercultural competency test.
- **Ethical competency:** completing specialised training or passing the NAATI Ethical competency test.

PRE-REQUISITE SCREENING TESTS		
LANGUAGE COMPETENCY – ENGLISH PROFICIENCY	<p>A range of English proficiency tests will be acceptable noting that there are specific reading, writing, speaking or listening scores required depending on the certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International English Language Testing System_(IELTS) test – General or Academic • Occupational English Test_(OET) • Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-Based Test (TOEFL iBT) • Pearson Test of English_(PTE) Academic • Cambridge English: Advanced_(CAE) test (also known as Certificate in Advanced English). • Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) • Versant English & Versant Writing • International Second Language Proficiency Ratings (ISLPR) English test. 	<p>The purpose of the ethical competency test is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine whether the candidate has the required ethical competency for translation and interpreting practice, • enable examiners to make inferences about the candidate's ability to behave ethically, and • determine eligibility for the certification test and/or Recognised Practising Translator/Interpreter. <p>The ethical competency test assesses a candidate's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of the relevant code of ethics – AUSIT Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct (2012) or ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct (2007), • ability to identify ethical dilemmas in a broad range of interpreting and translation situations, and • ability to apply the relevant principle/action in the code to the situation. <p>The test will consist of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Question type A: answering three (no choice) Knowledge-based short answer questions, and 2. Question type B: answering three from a choice of five Scenario-based short answer questions. <p>Each short answer is expected to be 100-150 words.</p> <p>Time allowed: 1.5 hours</p>
		<p>The purpose of the intercultural competency test is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine whether the candidate has the required intercultural competency for translation and interpreting practice, • enable examiners to make inferences about the candidate's ability to appropriately identify and reflect cultural references in the source and target languages and manage intercultural issues during practice, and • determine eligibility for the certification test and/or Recognised Practising Translator/Interpreter. <p>The intercultural competency test assesses a candidate's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of social, political and cultural institutions in Australia and LOTE country/region • ability to identify culturally and socio-linguistically specific information in a translation and/or interpreting situation, and • ability to respond to intercultural issues that may complicate communication in translation and/or interpreting assignments. <p>The test will consist of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Question type A: answering three from a choice of four Knowledge-based short answer questions, and 2. Question type B: answering three from a choice of five Scenario-based short answer questions. <p>Each short answer is expected to be 100-150 words.</p> <p>Time allowed: 1.5 hours</p>



TRANSLATOR CERTIFICATION		
PRE-REQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED ADVANCED TRANSLATOR PATHWAY ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a NAATI endorsed Advanced translating qualification no more than three years prior to the date of application – Masters Degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 9 or comparable) * PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a non-NAATI endorsed Advanced translating qualification – Masters Degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 9 or comparable); and Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency PATHWAY THREE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds a Certified Advanced Translator credential PATHWAY FOUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds current AITC membership; and Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency PATHWAY FIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Certified Translator in language and direction Evidence of at least three years' work experience in the language combination at the advanced level plus evidence of translation of at least 100,000 words at the advanced level; and Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice 	TEST FORMAT There will be separate tests for LOTE into English and English into LOTE certification. Each test will consist of three tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two translations of 400-word texts each from different domains. One revision of a 400-word translation including providing details of proposed revisions. All texts will be based on real life documents written by specialists and directed at the specialist reader (e.g. research papers, scientific journal articles, high level conference papers, legal briefs, trade agreements, case studies, government submissions). Time allowed: 8 hours	Evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work practice (10,000 word per year for translators) Continuous professional development (40 PD points per year). Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.
CERTIFIED TRANSLATOR PATHWAY ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a NAATI endorsed translating qualification no more than three years prior to the date of application- Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable) * PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-NAATI endorsed translating qualification – Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable); and Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency PATHWAY THREE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds a Certified Translator or Certified Advanced Translator credential PATHWAY FOUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of AQF units in translating theory and/or practice assessed by NAATI as meeting pre-requisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider; and Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests PATHWAY FIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds Recognised Practising Translator in any language 	TEST FORMAT There will be separate tests for LOTE into English and English into LOTE certification. Each test will consist of three tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two translations of 250-word texts each from different domains. One revision of a 250-word translation including providing details of proposed revisions. All texts will be based on real life documents directed at the educated but non-expert reader (e.g. personal documents, government brochures, contracts, health brochures, manuals, business communication). Time allowed: 3.5 hours	
RECOGNISED PRACTISING TRANSLATOR PATHWAY ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of AQF units in translating theory and/or practice assessed by NAATI as meeting pre-requisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider; and Passed language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests; and Evidence of recent translating work experience in the language combination and direction Note: The application must be lodged within three years of the completion of the training. PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds Recognised Practising Translator, Certified Translator or Certified Advanced Translator in another language Evidence of recent translating work experience in the language combination and direction 	TEST FORMAT There will be separate LOTE into English and English into LOTE credentials. No certification test.	

* If the qualification was completed more than 3 years prior to the date of application, the applicant must meet requirements as per the non-endorsed qualification pathway.

¹ Australian Qualifications Framework. For more information about AQF levels please visit <http://www.aqf.edu.au>

[#] for NAATI's purposes a graduand is a student who has completed the requirements for, but has not yet been awarded, the degree.



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION		
PRE-REQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
<p>CERTIFIED CONFERENCE INTERPRETER</p> <p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand# of a NAATI endorsed Conference interpreting qualification no more than three years prior to the date of application – Masters Degree or higher (AQF1 Level 9 or comparable) * <p>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand# of a non-NAATI endorsed Conference interpreting qualification – Masters Degree or higher (AQF1 Level 9 or comparable); and • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency <p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds Certified Conference Interpreter <p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds AIIC membership; and • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency <p>PATHWAY FIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language; and • Evidence of at least three years' conference interpreting work experience and at least 50 days (35 booth days) in the language combination as a conference interpreter; and • Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice 	<p>TEST FORMAT</p> <p>TO BE FINALISED</p> <p>There will be separate tests for LOTE into English and English into LOTE certification.</p> <p>Each test will consist of three tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simultaneous (booth) interpretation of a seen speech 2. Consecutive (monologue) interpretation of an unseen speech 3. Simultaneous (booth) interpretation of an unseen speech. <p>Speeches will be based on real-life speeches at international conferences, summits and negotiations at the level of experts communicating with an expert audience. Each speech will come from a different domain and setting. For signed languages this may include conferences, summits and negotiations at national level.</p> <p>Approximate length: 1.5 hours</p>	<p>Evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work practice (40 assignments per year for interpreters). • Continuous professional development (40 PD points per year). <p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>
<p>CERTIFIED SPECIALIST INTERPRETER (HEALTH)</p> <p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand# of a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in health interpreting) no more than three years prior to the date of application – Bachelor degree or higher (AQF1 Level 7 or comparable) * <p>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in health interpreting) – Bachelor degree or higher (AQF1 Level 7 or comparable); and • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency <p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds Certified Specialist Interpreter (Health) in another language <p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination; and • Evidence of at least three years' interpreting work experience in the language combination in area of specialisation; and • Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice <p>PATHWAY FIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination; and • Health qualification at Bachelor degree or higher (AQF1 Level 7 or comparable) 	<p>TEST FORMAT</p> <p>TO BE FINALISED</p> <p>The test will be in both language directions.</p> <p>Each test will consist of six tasks in specialised health settings, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two face-to-face dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role plays; • One sight translation English into LOTE of a document; • One sight translation LOTE into English of a document; • One face-to-face dialogue interpreting (simultaneous mode) role play; and • One monologue interpreting (consecutive mode) task English into LOTE. <p>All interpreting tasks will be based on real-life exchanges that occur in the Australian health domain and are typically encountered by interpreters. All tasks include complex and specialised topics.</p> <p>Approximate length: 1.5 to 2 hours</p>	<p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>

* If the qualification was completed more than 3 years prior to the date of application, the applicant must meet requirements as per the non-endorsed qualification pathway.

¹ Australian Qualifications Framework. For more information about AQF levels please visit <http://www.aqf.edu.au>

for NAATI's purposes a graduand is a student who has completed the requirements for, but has not yet been awarded, the degree.



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION		
PRE-REQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
<p>CERTIFIED SPECIALIST INTERPRETER (LEGAL)</p> <p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand[#] of a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in legal interpreting) no more than three years prior to the date of application – Bachelor degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 7 or comparable) * <p>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in legal interpreting) – Bachelor degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 7 or comparable); and • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency <p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds Certified Specialist Interpreter (Legal) in another language <p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination • Evidence of at least three years' interpreting work experience in the language combination in area of specialisation; and • Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice <p>PATHWAY FIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination; and • Legal qualification at Bachelor degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 7 or comparable) 	<p>TEST FORMAT</p> <p>TO BE FINALISED</p> <p>The test will be in both language directions.</p> <p>Each test will consist of six tasks in specialised legal settings, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two face-to-face dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role plays – one role play based on a criminal law and one on a civil law matter; • Two monologue interpreting (consecutive mode) tasks English into LOTE, embedded in the role play; • One sight translation English into LOTE of a document; and • One face-to-face dialogue interpreting (simultaneous mode) role play. <p>All interpreting tasks will be based on real-life exchanges that occur in the Australian legal domain and are typically encountered by interpreters. All tasks include complex and specialised topics in Australian civil and criminal law.</p> <p>Approximate length: 1.5 to 2 hours</p>	<p>Evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work practice (40 assignments per year for interpreters). • Continuous professional development (40 PD points per year). <p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>
<p>CERTIFIED INTERPRETER</p> <p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand[#] of a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification no more than three years prior to the date of application - Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable) <p>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand[#] of a non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification – Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable); and • Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests <p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds Certified Interpreter, Certified Specialist Interpreter or Certified Conference Interpreter <p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Provisionally Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination • Evidence of at least three years' interpreting work experience in the language combination; and • Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice. 	<p>TEST FORMAT</p> <p>The test will be in both language directions. Each test will consist of eight tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One telephone dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role play • One face-to-face dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role play • Two Sight Translations, one from the Language Other than English (LOTE) into English and one English into LOTE • Two monologue interpreting (consecutive mode) tasks of an information session, one from English into LOTE and one LOTE into English • Two monologue interpreting (simultaneous mode) tasks of an explanation of a situation, event or process, one from English into LOTE and one LOTE into English <p>All interpreting tasks will be based on real-life exchanges as encountered by interpreters in everyday life situations at the level of experts communicating with an educated but non-specialist audience (e.g. a doctor-patient consultation at a medical centre, a client applying for a business loan at a bank). Tasks will cover different domains and at least one assessment task will relate to a topic in the health domain and one in the legal domain.</p> <p>Approximate length: 1.5 hours</p>	

* If the qualification was completed more than 3 years prior to the date of application, the applicant must meet requirements as per the non-endorsed qualification pathway.

¹ Australian Qualifications Framework. For more information about AQF levels please visit <http://www.aqf.edu.au>

[#] for NAATI's purposes a graduand is a student who has completed the requirements for, but has not yet been awarded, the degree.



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION		
PRE-REQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED PROVISIONAL INTERPRETER PATHWAY ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] of a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification no more than three years prior to the date of application – Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 5 or comparable) * PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification –Diploma or higher (AQF¹ level 5 or comparable); and Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests PATHWAY THREE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds Certified Provisional Interpreter, Certified Interpreter, Certified Specialist Interpreter or Certified Conference Interpreter PATHWAY FOUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of AQF units in interpreting theory and/or practice assessed by NAATI as meeting pre-requisite requirements; and Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests PATHWAY FIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Recognised Practising Interpreter credential in any language 	TEST FORMAT The test will be in both language directions. Each test will consist of three tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One telephone dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role play Two face-to-face dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role plays Each dialogue will relate to different domains and will be based on real-life exchanges as encountered by non-English speakers in everyday life situations in non-specialised and non-complex contexts (e.g. enquiry about government services for new immigrants, a customer purchasing a car, enquiry about parental payments at a government office). Approximate length: 40 minutes	Evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work practice (40 assignments per year for interpreters). Continuous professional development (40 PD points per year).
RECOGNISED PRACTISING PATHWAY ONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of AQF units in interpreting theory and/or practice assessed by NAATI as meeting pre-requisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider; and Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests; and Evidence of recent interpreting work experience in the skill and language combination Note: The application must be lodged within three years of the completion of the training. PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds Recognised Practising Interpreter, Certified Provisional Interpreter, Certified Interpreter, Certified Specialist Interpreter or Certified Conference Interpreter in another language; and Evidence of recent interpreting work experience in the language combination 	TEST FORMAT The credential will be for both language directions. No certification test.	Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner

* If the qualification was completed more than 3 years prior to the date of application, the applicant must meet requirements as per the non-endorsed qualification pathway.

¹ Australian Qualifications Framework. For more information about AQF levels please visit <http://www.aqf.edu.au>

[#] for NAATI's purposes a graduand is a student who has completed the requirements for, but has not yet been awarded, the degree.