



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.

PREREQUISITE 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. • 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 • 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 • 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 • 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			
PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
CERTIFIED ADVANCED TRANSLATOR (CAT)	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 – Master’s Degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 9 or comparable). * Recommended to have at least two years’ translation work experience in the language combination at the advanced level. 	TEST FORMAT <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> <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. <p>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).</p> <p>Time allowed: 8 hours</p>	<p>Evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work practice (10,000 word per year for translators) Continuous professional development (40 PD points per year).
	PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a non-NAATI endorsed Advanced translating qualification – Master’s Degree or higher (AQF¹ Level 9 or comparable). Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency. Recommended to have at least two years’ translation work experience in the language combination at the advanced level. 		
	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. 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. Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice. 		
CERTIFIED TRANSLATOR (CT)	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). * 	TEST FORMAT <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> <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. <p>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).</p> <p>Time allowed: 3.5 hours</p>	<p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>
	PATHWAY TWO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-NAATI endorsed translating qualification – Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable). 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 prerequisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider. Meets the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests (a current NAATI Certified Provisional Interpreter or Certified Interpreter credential meets this requirement). 		
	PATHWAY FIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds Recognised Practising Translator in any language. 		
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 prerequisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider. Passed language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests. Evidence of recent translating work experience in the language combination and direction. <p>Note: The application must be lodged within three years of the completion of the training.</p>	TEST FORMAT <p>There will be separate LOTE into English and English into LOTE credentials.</p> <p>No certification test.</p>	
	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. 		



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

	PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED CONFERENCE INTERPRETER (CCI)	<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 – Master’s degree or higher (AQF1 Level 9 or comparable). * • Recommended to have at least two years’ conference interpreting work experience in the language combination. 	<p>TEST FORMAT</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. Consecutive interpreting (monologue) of an unseen speech 2. Simultaneous (booth) interpreting (monologue) of a seen speech 3. Simultaneous (booth) interpreting (monologue) 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>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand# of a non-NAATI endorsed Conference interpreting qualification – Master’s Degree or higher (AQF1 Level 9 or comparable). • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency and intercultural competency. • Recommended to have at least two years’ conference interpreting work experience in the language combination. 		
	<p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds Certified Conference Interpreter in another direction or another language pair. 		
	<p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds AIIC membership. • 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. • 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. • Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice. 		
CERTIFIED SPECIALIST LEGAL INTERPRETER (CSLI)	<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 six years prior to the date of application – Bachelor’s degree or higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). • Provides evidence of at least two years’ interpreting work experience in the language combination. • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. 	<p>TEST FORMAT</p> <p>The test will be in both language directions.</p> <p>Each test will consist of five tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One legal knowledge test (English with LOTE elements) 2. One consecutive interpreting (dialogic extracts) task – both LOTE and English 3. Two consecutive interpreting (monologue) tasks – one in each direction 4. One simultaneous interpreting (chuchotage) task – English into LOTE <p>The knowledge test is an online test which covers a broad range of knowledge in the legal field, advanced interpreting knowledge, and ethical and intercultural competence as relevant to legal interpreting. Interpreting tasks will be based on real-life exchanges as encountered by interpreters in specialised legal contexts, at the level of experts communicating with other experts. Tasks will cover different legal domains and types of courts.</p> <p>Approximate length: 4 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>PATHWAY TWO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduand# of a non-endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in legal interpreting) – Bachelor’s degree or higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). • Provides evidence of at least four years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. 		
	<p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Specialist Legal Interpreter in another language. 		
	<p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. • Provides evidence of at least six years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. • Completed 50 hours Professional Development activities in the area of specialisation over four years to support advanced practice. 		
	<p>PATHWAY FIVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. • Provides evidence of at least four years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. • Holds legal qualifications at bachelor’s degree level of higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). 		



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

		PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED SPECIALIST HEALTH INTERPRETER (CSHI)	PATHWAY ONE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduated of a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in health interpreting) no more than six years prior to the date of application – Bachelor’s degree or higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). Provides evidence of at least two years’ interpreting work experience in the language combination. Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. 	<p>The test will be in both language directions.</p> <p>Each test will consist of five tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One health knowledge test (English with LOTE elements) Two consecutive interpreting (monologue) tasks – one in each direction Two simultaneous interpreting (chuchotage) tasks – one in each direction <p>The knowledge test is an online test which covers a broad range of knowledge in the medical field, advanced interpreting knowledge, and ethical and intercultural competence as relevant to health interpreting. Interpreting tasks will be based on real-life exchanges as encountered by interpreters in specialised health contexts, at the level of experts communicating with other experts. Tasks will cover different sub-domains within health and at least one task will relate to mental health.</p> <p>Approximate length: 4 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>
	PATHWAY TWO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduated of a non-endorsed interpreting qualification (with specialised units in health interpreting) – Bachelor’s degree or higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). Provides evidence of at least four years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. 		
	PATHWAY THREE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Certified Specialist Health Interpreter in another language. 		
	PATHWAY FOUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. Provides evidence of at least six years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. Completed 50 hours Professional Development activities in the area of specialisation over four years to support advanced practice. 		
	PATHWAY FIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Certified Interpreter credential in the language combination. Provides evidence of at least four years’ (current, regular and ongoing) interpreting work experience in the language combination in the area of specialisation. Holds health qualifications at bachelor’s degree level or higher (AQF Level 7 or comparable). 		



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION

		PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED INTERPRETER (CI)	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 - Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable). 	TEST FORMAT	<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>
	PATHWAY TWO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] of a non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification – Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF¹ Level 6 or comparable). 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 Interpreter, Certified Specialist Interpreter or Certified Conference Interpreter. 		
	PATHWAY FOUR	<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. Completed Professional development activities to support advanced practice. 		
CERTIFIED PROVISIONAL INTERPRETER (CPI)	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). * 	TEST FORMAT	<p>The test will be in both language directions.</p> <p>Each test will consist of three tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One telephone dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role play Two face-to-face dialogue interpreting (consecutive mode) role plays <p>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).</p> <p>Approximate length: 40 minutes</p>
	PATHWAY TWO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduand[#] from a non-NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification –Diploma or higher (AQF¹ level 5 or comparable). 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. Meets the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests (a current NAATI Certified Translator credential meets this requirement). 		
	PATHWAY FIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds NAATI Recognised Practising Interpreter credential in any language. 		
				<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>



INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION			
	PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
RECOGNISED PRACTISING	<p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <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. Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests. Evidence of recent interpreting work experience in the skill and language combination. <p>Note: The application must be lodged within three years of the completion of the training.</p>	<p>The credential will be for both language directions.</p> <p>No certification test</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>PATHWAY TWO</p> <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. Evidence of recent interpreting work experience in the language combination. 		

* 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.