

### **Q** Am I eligible for this round of scholarships?

This round of the NSW Interpreter Scholarship Program is targeted at people who are interested in a beginning or furthering their career in interpreting and who are speakers of the identified established languages: *Croatian, Greek, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Lao, Macedonian, Malay, Maltese, Nepali, Portuguese, Romanian, Serbian, Swahili, Tagalog, Thai, Turkish, and Vietnamese.*

To be eligible for a scholarship, you must:

- Live in NSW
- Be an Australian citizen, or have permanent residency (consideration will be given to applications from asylum seekers)
- Have completed a VET Diploma or equivalent
- Have an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of 6.5 or equivalent
- Have Language Other Than English (LOTE) native level competence in one or more of the languages stated which will be assessed by UNSW via an entry test
- Be able to attend the face-to-face course component at UNSW in Sydney
- Have computer skills to participate in the online learning format of the course.
- Have a genuine commitment to working as an Interpreter.

Please note: NAATI credentials and professional interpreting experience can be used as equivalents to English and LOTE proficiency.

### **Q** What if my language is not on the list?

Multicultural NSW will only be accepting applications for languages appearing on the list at this time.

### **Q** If I am already working as an interpreter or translator, can I still apply?

Yes. If you are currently working as an interpreter at the Recognised Practising level and are wanting to reach NAATI Certified Provisional, this course will assist you. It will also assist you if you are intending to progress to further study in the field of interpreting and translating.

### **Q** Am I eligible if I don't live in NSW?

No. The Interpreter Scholarship Program will only be offered to applicants who reside in NSW.

### **Q** If I have no experience working as an interpreter or translator, should I still apply?

Yes, if you fulfil the eligibility requirements and are interested in a career in interpreting, you may apply. In your interview, you will be asked about your experience of interpreting, using your language to assist others, being bilingual and using language in the course of your work.

### **Q** Can I apply if I am in the process of applying for my permanent residency?

Consideration will be given to applications from refugees and asylum seekers and those applying for permanent residency. You must include current visa status information in your application. Please contact [scholarships@multicultural.nsw.gov.au](mailto:scholarships@multicultural.nsw.gov.au) for further enquiries.

### **Q** Can I apply for a scholarship if I work full time?

This tailored course is a 120-hour program. It will be conducted online in the evenings and face-to-face on Saturdays, so it is possible to do the program if you are working full time. However, candidates will need to demonstrate a genuine commitment and intention to work in and service the Interpreting industry.

### **Q** What does the scholarship cover? Will I have to pay anything?

This scholarship program covers a large portion of the course fees. The course is priced at \$3,500 per candidate. The scholarship covers \$2,500 on behalf of each successful candidate. You, the candidate, will be required to pay \$1,000 to cover the gap in fees. Multicultural NSW will fund candidates who successfully complete the program to sit the NAATI certification test and their NAATI registration fees for the first year.



2021 Scholarship graduates with Multicultural NSW CEO Josph LaPosta

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## **Q** What is the scholarship selection process?

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The competitive selection process will take approximately three months and consists of three parts:

1. An online application, due no later than 5 November 2021. This will include questions about your employment history and your motivation for wanting to do the scholarship.
2. If you meet the eligibility requirements, you will proceed to a video-recorded interview, which will ask you about your interpreting and translating experience, Australian residency and commitment to the scholarship program and a career in interpreting.
3. You will be tested in your Language Other Than English (LOTE) by UNSW. Some candidates will also undertake a test in English language proficiency.

Successful candidates will be notified and receive details on how to enrol in the course.

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## **Q** What are the dates and locations of the course?

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The course is due to begin in February 2022 and will be both online (20 weeks) as well as face to face on 8 Saturdays at UNSW in Sydney.

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## **Q** Do I need to do the UNSW English Proficiency test?

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One of the criteria for this program is that candidates are required to have an English language level at IELTS 6.5 or equivalent. If you are able to show evidence of this, you will not need to be assessed again. Please note that NAATI credentials and professional interpreting experience can be used as equivalents to English and LOTE proficiency.

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## **Q** What will be covered in the course?

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This course is 120 hours in duration to be delivered online and face to face at UNSW in Sydney. The course will consist of 9 modules:

1. Introduction to Interpreting
2. English Language Enhancement
3. Oral Speech Development
4. Interpreting Skills Development
5. Interpreting Bilingual Skills Development
6. Developing Practical Skills
7. Ethics and Professional Conduct
8. Interpreting Industry and Certification
9. Self-Directed Activities.

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## **Q** Will I be a qualified interpreter after completing the scholarship program?

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Completion of the UNSW Short Course Introduction to Interpreting and translation (6 Units) can be used as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for any of the UNSW Post Graduate interpreting and/or Translation programs - Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Masters.

This course also provides a pathway to NAATI certification. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be eligible to sit for the NAATI Certified Provisional Interpreter examination.

To register your interest for the NSW Interpreter Scholarship Program, apply [here](#) by 11.59pm on 5 November 2021.

For more information, please email [scholarships@multicultural.nsw.gov.au](mailto:scholarships@multicultural.nsw.gov.au)