

CERTIFICATION SYSTEM OVERVIEW

DEAF INTERPRETING CREDENTIALS



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document should be used to work out what pathway you can use to become eligible to apply for recognitions or to sit a NAATI Certification test to become a Deaf interpreter.

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

- **Prerequisites (Eligibility Pathways):** these are the criteria that you have to meet in order to be eligible to sit your chosen certification test.
- **The Certification Test:** this is a performance-based test of your interpreting skills. If you're successful in passing this test, you will be awarded certification.
- **Recertification Requirements:** once you are awarded a certification, you are required to meet certain criteria in order to retain it. Every three years, you will need to submit information to NAATI to show that you are continuing to meet these requirements. If you cannot meet these requirements, your credential will expire.

The table below describes these three components of the certification system with specific information for each credential type.

It is important that this document is not read in isolation. You should consult the following additional documents when trying to determine what type of certification you need to apply for:

- **The KSA's for Interpreters:** which sets out in detail the knowledge, skills and attributes identified as being needed for professional practice
- **The NAATI Certification Model:** which identifies the types and interrelationships between credentials to be awarded
- **The Descriptors for Interpreter certifications:** which provides information about the competencies associated with each type of credential in the Certification Model

Some eligibility pathways require you to meet NAATI standards for language (i.e. Auslan proficiency), ethical and/or intercultural competencies. The final part of this document outlines some information about these prerequisites.

AUSLAN, WRITTEN ENGLISH AND NON-CONVENTIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE (NCSL)

CREDENTIAL		ELIGIBILITY PATHWAY	CERTIFICATION TEST FORMAT	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
CERTIFIED PROVISIONAL DEAF INTERPRETER	1	<p>PATHWAY ONE</p> <p>You must have graduated (or be eligible to graduate) a NAATI endorsed interpreting qualification (diploma level or higher - AQF level 5 or comparable) no more than three years prior to the date of your application.</p>	<p>The Certified Provisional Deaf Interpreter test consists of four tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two face-to-face dialogue tasks (Auslan-NCSL) • One sight translation task (Written English into NCSL) • One sight translation task written English into Auslan <p>Each dialogue task involves a different situation from a different domain. Candidates may use consecutive and/or simultaneous modes as needed to transfer meaning. The sight translation task into NCSL is directly related to the second dialogue task (same domain) and the sight translation task into Auslan is in a different domain.</p> <p>**NOTE: If you submit a CPDI application and NAATI is unable to offer testing in your state, you may be contacted directly to apply for Recognised Practising Deaf Interpreter until testing becomes available.**</p>	<p>You will need to provide evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing work practice: 40 assignments (or hours) per year for interpreters; and • Continuous professional development: 40 PD points per year. <p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>
	2	<p>PATHWAY TWO</p> <p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have graduated (or be eligible to graduate) a non-endorsed interpreting qualification (diploma level or higher - AQF level 5 or comparable); • Be able to provide evidence of your Auslan language proficiency (at the appropriate level); and <p>Meet the requirements for ethical competency and intercultural competency (which may involve sitting a screening test/s).</p>		
	3	<p>PATHWAY THREE</p> <p>You must already hold a current Recognised Practising Interpreter credential (in any language) or other NAATI Interpreter Certification (in any language).</p>		
	4	<p>PATHWAY FOUR</p> <p>You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have completed at least 40 hours' worth of AQF units (e.g. 4x Diploma of Interpreting units) no more than three years prior to the date of your application. These units must be recognised by NAATI and must cover interpreting theory and/or practice; • Be able to provide evidence of your Auslan language proficiency (at the appropriate level); and <p>Meet the requirements for ethical competency and intercultural competency (which may involve sitting a screening test/s).</p>		

AUSLAN, WRITTEN ENGLISH AND NON-CONVENTIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE (NCSL)

CREDENTIAL		ELIGIBILITY PATHWAY	CERTIFICATION TEST FORMAT	RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
RECOGNISED PRACTISING DEAF INTERPRETER	1	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 Auslan language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency; and 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>No certification test.</p> <p>Candidates can apply for recognition in 1 or more of any of the following language combinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auslan/Non-conventional sign language Auslan/Adapted sign language Auslan/Conventional sign language* Written English>NCSL Written English>Auslan 	<p>You will need to provide NAATI with evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing work practice: 40 assignments (or hours) per year for interpreters; and Continuous professional development: 40 PD points per year. <p>Ongoing certification will be dependent on ethical and professional conduct by the practitioner.</p>
	2	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 	<p>* The application will need to specify which conventional sign language (e.g. American sign language).</p>	

NOTES: AQF = Australian Qualifications Framework. For more information about AQF levels please visit <http://www.aqf.edu.au>. If a NAATI Endorsed 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.

PREREQUISITE INFORMATION

LANGUAGE COMPETENCY (AUSLAN PROFICIENCY)	ETHICAL COMPETENCY	INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCY
<p>You will need to provide evidence your Auslan proficiency.</p> <p>This can include evidence such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing your primary and secondary education (equivalent to Australian secondary education year 12) at an institution/s where Auslan, or Auslan and English were the primary language of instruction; or • Completing your secondary (equivalent to Australian secondary education year 12) and tertiary education at an institution where Auslan and English were the primary language of instruction. <p>Any evidence provided must show the number of years completed (e.g. 2013-2017).</p> <p>NAATI will also consider evidence of proficiency in the form of a letter from a state deaf society confirming the applicant's membership in the local deaf community and fluency in Auslan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaf Connect (New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia) • Expression Australia (Victoria and Tasmania) • Access Plus WA Deaf (Western Australia) 	<p>If you have completed a NAATI Endorsed Qualification, you will have automatically satisfied this requirement and will not need to provide additional evidence.</p> <p>If you have completed ethical training at a Higher Education (HE) or Vocational Education and Training (VET) institution within the last three years you will need to attach evidence of completing this training. NAATI may exempt you from having to sit a screening test on the basis of this evidence.</p> <p>You do not need to apply separately to sit an ethical competency screening test. NAATI will make a determination and will advise you of whether you need to sit this screening test once we begin processing your submitted certification application.</p> <p>The purpose of the ethical competency test is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine whether you have the required ethical competency for interpreting practice; • enable examiners to make inferences about your ability to behave ethically; and • determine your eligibility for the credential you applied for. <p>The ethical competency test will assess your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of the relevant code of ethics – ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct (2007); • ability to identify ethical dilemmas in a broad range of interpreting 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 Knowledge-based short answer questions; and 2. Question type B: answering three Scenario-based short answer questions. <p>Time allowed: One and a half hours.</p>	<p>If you have completed a NAATI Endorsed Qualification, you will have automatically satisfied this requirement and will not need to provide additional evidence.</p> <p>If you have completed other Deaf cultural training at a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher Education (HE) or Vocational Education and Training (VET) institution; or • recognised Deaf organisation (e.g. Deaf Society, Expression Australia) within the last three years, to attach evidence of completing this training. NAATI may exempt you from having to sit a screening test on the basis of this evidence. <p>You do not need to apply separately to sit an intercultural competency screening test. NAATI will make a determination and will advise you of whether you need to sit these screening tests once we begin processing your submitted certification application.</p> <p>The purpose of the intercultural competency test is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determine whether you have the required intercultural competency for translation and interpreting practice; • enable examiners to make inferences about your ability to appropriately identify and reflect cultural references in the source and target languages and manage intercultural issues during practice; and • determine your eligibility for the credential you applied for. <p>The intercultural competency test will assess your:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knowledge of social, political and cultural institutions in Australia and within the Deaf community; • ability to identify culturally and socio-linguistically specific information in an 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 Knowledge-based short answer questions, and 2. Question type B: answering three Scenario-based short answer questions. <p>Time allowed: One and a half hours.</p>