



Certified Provisional Interpreter (CPI) test Information sheet for Indigenous languages

Contact the Indigenous Interpreting team by email at iip@naati.com.au if you need help understanding this information sheet.

Before applying for CPI testing	
Expression of interest	Candidates must provide evidence of English proficiency and interpreter training (at least 40 hours) before they can sit a CPI test. Complete the Expression of Interest online to check in on these prerequisites and determine next steps.
ECIC	All candidates must pass their NAATI Ethical Competency test and Intercultural Competency test (ECIC) before sitting the CPI test.
CPI preparation	NAATI has prepared online materials, available on YouTube , to assist candidates to prepare for CPI tests. Please watch these before attending a testing workshop. Contact NAATI for support with your preparation.

Preparation and testing workshop	
Workshop organisation	<p>When candidates have met the prerequisites and are ready for CPI testing, they can request that NAATI organise a face-to-face workshop for final preparation training, a practice test with role-players and the test sitting.</p> <p>Generally, only one or two languages will be tested at a time due to the complexity in preparing role-players and dialogues for each language. The maximum number of candidates for a workshop is 10.</p>
Workshop overview	The workshop will consist of 3 days of training and practice tests followed by a day or two of testing (depending on number of languages and candidates)
What NAATI provides	NAATI will provide lunch and light snacks for the workshop days. NAATI will organise or cover travel costs for candidates to travel to a central location to sit the test.

CPI test: Information sheet for Indigenous languages

The test	
Test description	<p>The Certified Provisional Interpreter (CPI) test consists of three interpreting tasks. Each task is a live role-play. Each will involve a different situation from a different domain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two consecutive interpreting face-to-face dialogue tasks • One consecutive interpreting remote dialogue task (via telephone) <p>There will be two role-players involved in each task, one English-speaking and one Language-speaking.</p>
Domains & situations	All tasks deal with situations set in different domains of daily life in Australia, such as health, legal, community, education, social services, finance, housing, business, employment, insurance, consumer affairs.
Duration	Each of the 3 tasks usually takes 30 minutes (15 minutes preparation time, 15 minutes for the dialogue), so 1½ hours for all three tasks . Usually, you will do the two face-to-face dialogue tasks one after the other and then the remote phone dialogue task a bit later.
Test recording	Your test will be video and/or audio recorded for assessment by NAATI examiners.
Test supervisors	NAATI test supervisors will take you into the test rooms and will be in each room during testing. They manage logistics, the recording equipment, timing, and any other issues. Supervisors are not permitted to talk about the content of the task or comment on your performance.
Testing in two languages	If you are being tested in 2 languages, you must sit a complete test for each language. Normally only one language will be tested on a single day.

On test day	
What to bring	<p>You can bring resources to help with preparation – dictionaries, phone or laptop with internet, etc. Bring your reading glasses if you use them.</p> <p>The test rooms will have water, a pen and paper ready for you.</p>
Professional conduct	<p>NAATI staff will confirm the candidate order and timing of tests the day before. Please be on time for your test. If you are late, NAATI cannot guarantee you will be able to sit the test.</p> <p>You are expected to be courteous and respectful towards NAATI staff, supervisors and other candidates. If you are rude or abusive towards NAATI staff, supervisors or other candidates, you will be asked to leave and will not be allowed to sit your CPI test.</p>

On test day	
About preparation time	<p>You will have 15 minutes before each task to prepare in the Preparation Room. The test supervisor will give you an interpreting brief for the next task. This brief describes the situation and domain, and the names and roles of the people you will interpret for.</p> <p>In this room, you can use the internet and your resources to research the brief, and you may write notes which you can take into the Test Room.</p> <p>You cannot communicate with other candidates or anyone via phone during this time.</p>
About the two face-to-face dialogues	<p>You will use consecutive mode to interpret two face-to-face dialogues between two role-players about the topic and situation described in your interpreting brief.</p> <p>For each task, the role-play begins as soon as you enter the Test Room. The English-speaking role-player will greet you, introduce themselves and ask you to introduce yourself to the Language speaker. NAATI examiners will not assess this introductory part.</p> <p>The English-speaking role-player will say “Ok, let’s start”, and from then on, your interpreting will be assessed. You must interpret what the role-players say and interact with the role-players to accurately transfer the meaning between them.</p> <p>Each task will go for about 12 minutes.</p>
About the phone dialogue	<p>You will use consecutive mode to interpret a remote dialogue between two role-players about the topic and situation described in your interpreting brief. The role-players are in a separate room from you for this task.</p> <p>In the Test Room, the test supervisor will direct you to sit at a table with a telephone. You will use the hands-free (speaker-phone) function, which the supervisor will explain to you.</p> <p>When the phone rings you should answer it and say ‘hello’. The role-play begins as soon as you answer the telephone. An English-speaking booking officer will ask if you are available to do a telephone interpreting job. You will accept the job, then the booking officer will connect you to the role-players. The English role-player will introduce themselves and the situation and ask you to introduce yourself to the client in Language. NAATI examiners will not assess this introductory part.</p> <p>The English-speaking role-player will say “Ok, let’s start”, and from then on, your interpreting will be assessed. You must interpret what the role-players say and interact with the role-players to accurately transfer the meaning between them.</p> <p>This task will go for about 12 minutes.</p>

On test day	
Interacting with role-players	<p>As the interpreter, you should listen to what the role-players say and transfer the meaning accurately. However, there will be instances during the test when you can't hear or understand the speakers. For example, this might happen if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the role-players mumble or talk at the same time • there is a distracting noise or other interference • the phone cuts out, or • a role-player uses a phrase you don't know <p>Show your ability to interact with the Role-players to make sure you accurately transfer the meaning. You should use a range of strategies to deal with these issues, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ask the role-player to repeat or clarify what they have said • ask the role-player to pause or slow down • ask the role-player to speak louder or softer • insert a correction if you realise you have made an error, or • use other strategies to transfer meaning or otherwise manage the interaction. <p>You will not be marked down for using strategies if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they result in accurate transfer of meaning, • they do not hinder the flow of the conversation, • you are courteous, and • you inform the other role-player about what occurred in the other language
Confidentiality	<p>All test materials are the property of NAATI. You are not permitted to make or take away copies, paper or electronic, of any test material, or reproduce the test or communicate the test content to a third party.</p>

Assessment	
Assessment	<p>At least 2 NAATI examiners will assess your performance in the test. They will assess each task separately, using an assessment rubric.</p> <p>Your task performance will be marked against 6 skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaning transfer skill • Consecutive mode • Interactional management skill • Speaking skill • Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer into the target language (both English proficiency and Language proficiency) <p>You must pass all three tasks to pass the test. You can find detailed information about the assessment rubrics and criteria on the website.</p>
Results	<p>NAATI will email you (or your sponsor organization) your results within 10 weeks of testing.</p>
Supplementary testing	<p>You must attempt all three tasks and pass two of them to be eligible to apply for a supplementary test. You must apply for the supplementary test within one month of receiving your test results.</p> <p>The supplementary test will involve re-sitting only the failed task. If you pass the supplementary test, NAATI will award you the Certified Provisional Interpreter credential.</p>