Translator Certification Scheme Design Summary

This document outlines the prerequisite requirements, certification pathways and test specifications to become a NAATI-certified translator, under the following certification types:

- Recognised Practising Translator (RPT)
- Certified Translator (CT)
- Certified Advanced Translator (CAT)

PREREQUISITES AND SCREENING TESTS		
LANGUAGE COMPETENCY (ENGLISH PROFICIENCY)	**ETHICAL COMPETENCY**	**INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCY**
Applicants must provide evidence of English proficiency as part of their certification application. Completing a NAATI Endorsed Qualification within the past three years will meet the language proficiency requirements. 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: • 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. • Other English proficiency demonstration as assessed as meeting requirements by NAATI. Evidence of English proficiency for native speakers of English may include records of completing primary and secondary schooling or secondary and tertiary education at an institution where English was the primary language of instruction.	If an applicant has not met the ethical competency requirements as part of their interpreter training, such as by completing a NAATI Endorsed Qualification within the past three years, they will be required to sit an ethical competency test with NAATI. The purpose of the ethical competency test is to: • enable examiners to make inferences about the candidate's ability to behave ethically in their translation or interpreting practice. • determine eligibility for the certification test and/or a Recognised Practising Translator/Interpreter credential. The ethical competency test assesses a candidate's: • knowledge of the relevant code of ethics – AUSIT Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct (2012), ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct (2007), or NZSTI Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct (2013) • 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. The test will consist of: 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**. Each short answer is expected to be 100-150 words. For candidates under the Indigenous Interpreting Project, the test will be administered orally. **Time allowed:** 1.5 hours	If an applicant has not met the intercultural competency requirements as part of their interpreter training, such as by completing a NAATI Endorsed Qualification within the past three years, they will be required to sit an intercultural competency test with NAATI. The purpose of the intercultural competency test is to: • 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 translation or interpreting practice • determine eligibility for the certification test and/or a Recognised Practising Translator/Interpreter credential. The intercultural competency test assesses a candidate's: • 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. The test will consist of: 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**. Each short answer is expected to be 100-150 words. For candidates under the Indigenous Interpreting Project, the test will be administered orally. **Time allowed:** 1.5 hours

RECOGNISED PRACTISING TRANSLATOR (RPT)

PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST FORMAT
PATHWAY ONE • Completion of AQF units in translating theory and/or alternate formal education assessed by NAATI as meeting prerequisite 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. • Evidence of recent translating work experience in the language combination and direction.	**No certification test**
PATHWAY TWO • 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.	

CERTIFIED TRANSLATOR (CT)

PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	CERTIFICATION TEST FORMAT
PATHWAY ONE • 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). *	There will be separate tests for LOTE into English and English into LOTE certification. **Each test will consist of three tasks:** • 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
PATHWAY TWO • Graduand# from a non-NAATI endorsed translating qualification – Advanced Diploma or higher (AQF[1] level 6 or comparable), or an Endorsed Qualification more than three years prior to the date of application. • Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests.	
PATHWAY THREE • Holds Certified Translator or Certified Advanced Translator credential.	
PATHWAY FOUR • Completion of AQF units in translating theory and/or alternate formal education assessed by NAATI as meeting prerequisite requirements or other comparable training delivered by a VET or HE provider. In situations where accredited training is not available, unaccredited translator training and education will be assessed by NAATI to determine its eligibility. • Met the standard set by NAATI for language competency, ethical competency and intercultural competency tests (a current Certified Provisional Interpreter or Certified Interpreter credential meets this requirement).	
PATHWAY FIVE • Holds Recognised Practising Translator credential in any language.	

CERTIFIED ADVANCED TRANSLATOR (CAT)	
PREREQUISITE PATHWAYS	**CERTIFICATION TEST FORMAT**
PATHWAY ONE • 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. **PATHWAY TWO** • 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** • Holds Certified Advanced Translator credential in another language. **PATHWAY FOUR** • Holds current AITC membership. • Met the standard set by NAATI for ethical competency. **PATHWAY FIVE** • Holds Certified Translator credential in the same 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.	There will be separate tests for LOTE into English and English into LOTE certification. **Each test will consist of three tasks:** • 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

* 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.