

# Certified Specialist Health Interpreter (Auslan)

Interpreting Test Candidate Instructions

OFFICIAL



**National Accreditation Authority  
for Translators and Interpreters LTD**

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## Reminder for candidates

- Familiarise yourself with the Certified Specialist Health Interpreter (Auslan) test page < <https://www.naati.com.au/certification/cshi-auslan/> >
- Read the Terms and conditions < <http://naati.com.au/resources/terms-and-conditions> >
- Understand the assessment process including how NAATI will assess your language use.

## Preparing for test day

### What you will need

#### Identity document

You must have a photo identity document (passport or Australian driver's licence) ready when you begin your test. Click here to learn more about identity verification. < <https://www.naati.com.au/resources/identity-verification/> >

#### Resources

You may bring hard copy materials and resources to use in the **Waiting Room**, for example, but not limited to hard copy dictionaries, glossaries and thesauri, including self-developed glossaries.

#### Food and water

You may wish to bring food to the test venue as you may need to wait several hours for your test to start. Any food must be consumed in the Waiting Room.

### What NAATI will & will not provide

In the Preparation Room, NAATI will provide:

- Non-internet-connected (offline) computers (to watch Auslan intro video – simultaneous monologue into English task ONLY)
- a clean hard copy of the Interpreting Brief
- a pen and paper for note taking (to be returned at the conclusion of the task), and
- a glass of water.

In the Test Room(s) NAATI will provide:

- a clean hard copy of the Interpreting Brief
- a clean hard copy of Summary sheet (simultaneous monologue into Auslan task ONLY)
- a pen and paper for note taking (to be returned at the conclusion of the task), and
- a glass of water.

NAATI will not provide:

- resources to prepare

## Test conditions

You must follow these conditions. If you do not, NAATI may cancel your test or not issue your test result. If this happens, you will not receive a refund of your test fee.

### Leaving the test venue

Once testing has started, you are not allowed to leave the test venue until your test is complete. If you do, you cannot re-enter the venue or continue your test at a later time.

### Behaviour on test day

You are expected to be courteous and respectful towards NAATI staff. You cannot communicate with other external parties (e.g. via chat) on the test day once your test has started.

### Use of internet and communications devices

You are not allowed to use any electronic devices in the Waiting Room or Test Room. These devices include your phone, laptop, tablet, smartwatch and any other electronic devices. When you check in for the test, you will be asked to turn off all your electronic devices, put them in your bag and leave your bag in secure storage space.

### Confidentiality

All test materials are the property of NAATI. You are not permitted to make or record copies (paper or electronic) of any test material or reproduce the test or communicate the test content to a third party.

Any attempt to copy the test material will also result in disciplinary action being taken, which may involve the test being invalidated and a ban from any future NAATI test.

## Test supervision

NAATI test supervisors manage logistics, the equipment recording your test, start and finish times, and any other issues. A supervisor will be in each room, and will tell you when to move between the different rooms.

Supervisors are not permitted to talk about the content of the task or comment on your performance.

You must always follow the supervisors' instructions.

## Recording of tests

Your test will be audio and/or video-recorded for assessment by NAATI examiners.

# Test overview

## Test description

The Auslan Certified Specialist Health Interpreter Interpreting Test consists of four **interpreting** tasks. The tasks will involve different situations from the health domain, focussing on specialist and hospital interactions.

- One Simultaneous Interpreting (English into Auslan) – Monologue task
- One Simultaneous Interpreting (Auslan into English) – Monologue task
- One Simultaneous Interpreting (English into Auslan) – Monolingual exchange task
- One Simultaneous Interpreting (Auslan into English) – Mental Health Monologue task

Each Certified Specialist Health Interpreter test is bidirectional i.e. there are tasks into both English and Auslan; however, each task is in a single language direction.

## Domains & situations

All tasks deal with high level interactions between specialists; or between specialists and well-informed lay speakers, in different areas of the health domain. There will be at least one task focussed on interpreting disjointed language in the area of mental health.

## Duration

Each Interpreting Test is conducted in a single day. Each interpreting task should take no more than 15 minutes (plus preparation time if applicable), but you may need to wait, both for your test to start and between tasks. This can add up to a number of hours, depending on the number of candidates on the day.

The expected completion time of the test session is listed in your test confirmation email.

## Waiting room

After you check in, a NAATI staff member will direct you to sit in the Waiting Room. You will wait in this room until it is time to start your test. You will place any electronic devices, including electronic dictionaries, glossaries or thesauri, phone, laptop, tablet or other smart device in a secure storage area.

In the Waiting Room, you can only access your hard copy resources. You cannot use any electronic devices in this room.

## Preparation room (Simultaneous Monologue (Auslan into English) only)

You will have 15 minutes before the **Simultaneous Monologue (Auslan into English)** task to watch a brief video introduction by the signer to allow you to familiarise yourself with their signing style. There is no preparation time before the English into Auslan tasks, or the Simultaneous (Auslan into English) Mental Health monologue.

In the Preparation Room, NAATI will provide you with a hard copy of the interpreting brief for the task, as well as a non-internet connected computer to watch the brief video introduction.

In this room, you may write notes which you can take into the Test Room. You cannot communicate with other candidates in this room.

## Test room/s

The Test Room is where you will complete the actual tasks. There will be no further explanation of the task or conditions once you enter the Test Room.

You cannot bring any electronic or hard copy resources into the Test Room (other than the brief provided in the Preparation Room and any notes written during preparation).

You will be given a clean copy of the interpreting brief for each task. For the Simultaneous Monologue into Auslan task, you will also be given a clean copy of the Patient Summary Sheet. You may write notes during the test. You must leave the interpreting brief, Patient Summary Sheet and any handwritten notes in the Test Room.

## Sitting the test

### On test day

You must check in for your test between the arrival time and the registration closing time listed in your test confirmation email. NAATI staff will check you in by verifying your identity. You can view more information about identity verification on the website.

**NAATI will not admit you to the test if you arrive after the registration closing time.**

Your test will be video recorded for assessment by NAATI examiners.

### One Simultaneous Interpreting (English into Auslan) – Monologue task

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting Monologue (English into Auslan) task**, you will use the simultaneous mode to interpret a monologue from English into Auslan delivered from an audio/ video recording, played for you by a test supervisor. The monologue is about 500 words long.

One week prior to the test you will receive the interpreting brief for the task so that you can prepare. Twenty-four (24) hours before the test you will receive a Patient Summary Sheet with details on the patient's condition and details on tests/test results. On the day of your test, you will not have any preparation time for this task.

This task will start shortly after you enter the Test Room. In the Test Room, you will be given a clean copy of the Patient Summary Sheet. The interpreting brief will be played to you as part of the recording, followed by a short language profile video of the Auslan user to whom you will be interpreting the English monologue, to allow you to familiarise yourself with their signing style. The Auslan user will provide information about their educational background and language literacy. The video will be played once with no pauses. You cannot request a repetition of any part of the video. After the video is played, you can have a break of up to 2 minutes before the task begins. You are not allowed to leave the Test Room.

Before the audio recording of the monologue begins, you will have up to 60 seconds to introduce yourself to the Auslan user and explain how you will refer to the speaker and any relevant people in your interpretation. While your explanation will not be assessed, it will help the examiners to gauge the clarity of your interpretation.

The monologue that you need to interpret will begin immediately after the 60 seconds have elapsed. You should start interpreting as soon as possible after the monologue begins and continue to interpret for the duration of the monologue. You cannot ask for any clarifications, repeats or pauses of the recording.

You are required to complete interpreting within 30 seconds after the end of the monologue.

## One Simultaneous Interpreting (Auslan into English) – Monologue task

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting Monologue (Auslan into English) task**, you will use the simultaneous mode to interpret a monologue from Auslan into English delivered from a video recording, played for you by a test supervisor. The monologue is about 4-6 minutes long and may have a few questions in English from the English-speaking interlocutor as prompts. You do not need to interpret those prompts into Auslan.

One week prior to the test you will receive the interpreting brief for the task so that you can prepare.

On the day of your test, you will have 15 minutes to prepare for the task in the Preparation Room. In this room, you will have access to a non-internet connected computer to watch a brief (approx. 1-2 minutes) video introduction by the Auslan signer to allow you to familiarise yourself with their signing style. You may watch this video as many times as you like during the 15 minutes.

You cannot bring any materials with you into the Preparation Room.

You may take the interpreting brief (provided in the Preparation Room) and any handwritten notes you make during the preparation time with you into the Test Room.

After preparation, you will be directed to the Test Room.

This task will start shortly after you enter the Test Room. The interpreting brief will be played to you as part of the recording. The monologue that you need to interpret will begin immediately after the interpreting brief. You should start interpreting as soon as possible after the monologue begins and continue to interpret for the duration of the monologue. You cannot ask for any clarifications, repeats or pauses of the recording.

You are required to complete interpreting within 30 seconds after the end of the monologue.

## One Simultaneous Interpreting (English into Auslan) – Monolingual Exchange task

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting Monolingual Exchange (English into Auslan) task**, you will use the simultaneous mode to interpret an exchange between three English speakers into Auslan for a third party. The exchange will be delivered from a video recording, played for you by a test supervisor. The task is about 800 words long.

One week prior to the test you will receive the interpreting brief for the task so that you can prepare. On the day of your test, you will not have any preparation time for this task.

This task will start shortly after you enter the Test Room.

The interpreting brief will be played to you as part of the recording, followed by a short language profile video of the Auslan user to whom you will be interpreting the English exchange, to allow you to familiarise yourself with their signing style. The Auslan user will provide information about their educational background and language literacy. The video will be played once with no pauses. You cannot request a repetition of any part of the video. After the video is played, you can have a break of up to 2 minutes before the task begins. You are not allowed to leave the Test Room.

Before the video recording of the monolingual exchange begins, you will have up to 60 seconds to introduce yourself to the Auslan user and explain how you will refer to the speakers and any relevant people in your interpretation. While your explanation will not be assessed, it will help the examiners to gauge the clarity of your interpretation.

The monolingual exchange that you need to interpret will begin immediately after the 60 seconds have elapsed. You should start interpreting as soon as possible after the monolingual exchange begins and continue to interpret for the duration of the exchange. You cannot ask for any clarifications, repeats or pauses of the recording.

You are required to complete interpreting within 30 seconds after the end of the exchange.

## One Simultaneous Interpreting (Auslan into English) – Mental Health Monologue task

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting Mental Health Monologue task**, you will use the simultaneous mode to interpret a monologue of disjointed language in the mental health domain (e.g. a patient with schizophrenia; a patient recounting traumatic events with counselor) from Auslan into English delivered from a video recording, played for you by a test supervisor. The monologue is about 3-4 minutes long.

One week prior to the test you will receive the interpreting brief for the simultaneous monologue so that you can prepare. On the day of your test, you will not have any preparation time for this task.

The task will start shortly after you enter the Test Room.

The interpreting brief will be played to you as part of the recording, followed by two viewings of the first 30 seconds of the monologue, to allow you to familiarise yourself with the Auslan signer's signing style that may be disjointed. You cannot request a repetition of any part of the video. After the second viewing, you can have a break of up to 2 minutes before the task begins. You are not allowed to leave the Test Room.

The entire monologue that you need to interpret will begin immediately after the 2-minute break. You should start interpreting as soon as possible after the monologue begins and continue to interpret for the duration of the monologue. You cannot ask for any clarifications, repeats or pauses of the recording.

You are required to complete interpreting within 30 seconds after the end of the monologue.



# Assessment & results

## Assessment

To sit the Interpreting Test, you must have already passed the Knowledge Test.

At least 2 NAATI examiners will independently assess your performance in the test. They will assess each task separately, using assessment rubrics with 5 bands (with Band 1 representing the highest level of performance and Band 5 the lowest). Your task performance will be marked against each criterion, as outlined below.

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting – Monologue and Monolingual Exchange** tasks, NAATI examiners will assess your:

- **Transfer competency:** Meaning transfer skill, Application of interpreting mode, and Rhetorical skill; and
- **Language competency:** Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer into the target language; and
- **Thematic competency:** Subject matter specific knowledge

For the **Simultaneous Interpreting – Mental Health Monologue into English** task, NAATI examiners will assess your:

- **Transfer competency:** Meaning transfer skill, Application of interpreting modes and Rhetorical skill; and
- **Language competency:** Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer into the target language

Refer to our [language policy](https://www.naati.com.au/resources/language-policy-interpreting/) < <https://www.naati.com.au/resources/language-policy-interpreting/> > to understand how the examiners will assess your use of language in the test.

You need to achieve at least Band 2 for each criterion, and you must pass all the interpreting tasks to pass the test.

## Results & receiving your credential

NAATI aims to issue results for Interpreting Tests within 8-10 weeks of the test date. We will issue results as they are finalised, so some candidates will receive their results earlier than others even if they sit the test on the same day.

You must pass the Knowledge Test to be eligible to sit the Interpreting Test. Knowledge Test results are valid for 3 years after the date you passed your test to allow you time to re-sit the Interpreting Test if needed.

If you pass the Interpreting Test, we will issue your Certified Specialist Health Interpreter (Auslan) credential.

## Supplementary testing

You must attempt all tasks and pass at least three interpreting tasks to be eligible to apply for a supplementary test. You must apply for the supplementary test from your myNAATI account within 30 days of receiving your test results. The supplementary test will involve re-sitting only the failed task.

If you pass the supplementary test, NAATI will award you the Certified Specialist Health (Auslan) Interpreter credential. If you fail the supplementary test, this means you have failed the test. You can apply for another Certified Specialist Health (Auslan) Interpreter test with NAATI if you want to sit the test again.