



Supreme Court of Illinois
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS COURTS

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Dear all,

Thank you for your interest in the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts' (AOIC) court interpreter certification program. The program is designed for persons with native-like mastery of English and a second language and will require attendance at an orientation and passing scores on written and oral exams. The orientation sessions in October, November and December will offer information about the interpreting profession, the code of interpreter ethics and the three modes of interpreting. The written and oral exams will be offered in two separate sessions shortly after the orientation sessions. Candidates must continue self-study before taking the written and oral exams. Information regarding fees, our exam policy, reciprocity policy, and our tier system will be forthcoming.

To assist with self-study, below are some resources from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and other states around the country with interpreter certification programs.

Resource	Website
NCSC Self-Assessment tool	http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Education%20and%20Careers/State%20Interpreter%20Certification%20Qualifications.ashx
NCSC study tools and practice exam kits	http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/State-Interpreter-Certification/Self-Assessment-Tools.aspx
California Interpreter Handbook p.9-18 --Exercises for developing interpreting skills	http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/CIP-Info-Packet.pdf
Legal glossaries in several languages	http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/glossaries.htm
NCSC written examination overview	http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January_Written%20Exam%20Overview%201%2029%2014.ashx
NCSC oral examination overview	http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January_Oral%20Exam%20Overview%20for%20Candidates%201%2029%2014.ashx

NCSC oral examination test rating manual	http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January_Test%20Rating%20Manual%201%2029%2014.ashx
Other study tools and bilingual resources	<p>Free glossary of English-Spanish legal terms at http://ernestoromero.net/LS.pdf</p> <p>McKenna, Dennis. Criminal Court Dictionary: English-Spanish Español-Inglés Western Addition. Pasadena, CA: Adelfa Books, 2006.</p> <p>McKenna, Dennis. Dictionary of Mexicanisms, Second Edition: Slang, Colloquialisms and Expressions Used in Mexico. Pasadena, CA: Adelfa Books, 2006.</p> <p>Mikkelson, H. The Interpreter's Companion, 4th Edition. Spreckels, CA: Acebo Press.</p> <p>Mikkelson, H. The Interpreter's Edge, Generic Edition. Self-Study Package. Spreckels, CA: Acebo Press.</p> <p>Mikkelson, H. The Interpreter's Edge (multiple languages available). Self-Study Package. Spreckels, CA: Acebo Press.</p> <p>ACEBO Press P.O. Box 7485 Spreckels, CA 93962 Ph. 831-455-1507 Fax 831-455-1541 www.acebo.com</p> <p>Alicia Ernand Productions P.O. Box 802382 Santa Clarita, CA 91380-2382 661-296-4682 Email: alinick@sbcglobal.net www.aliciaernand.com</p>
Related links	<p>American Translators Association Professional organization of translators and interpreters. Conference announcements, discussion groups, publications, links.</p> <p>Consortium for Language Access in the Courts Coalition of state court systems working to develop standardized tests of interpreter qualifications and to improve court interpreting policies and practices. Lists resources on court interpreting, language barriers, cultural issues, interpreter training resources, links.</p> <p>Cultural Orientation Describes the culture and language of certain refugee populations: Afghans, Bosnians, Cubans, Haitians, Iraqi Kurds, Iraqis, Somalis, Somali Bantus, and Sudanese.</p> <p>Ethnologue Information on world languages provided through a searchable database, as well as publications on cultures, software, and a bibliography on past research work.</p> <p>Glossarist</p>

	<p>Collection of online glossaries, including 70 legal glossaries.</p> <p><u>Midwest Association of Translators and Interpreters</u> Professional organization of court interpreters and legal translators. Conference announcements, webinars, blog, links.</p> <p><u>National Association of Court Managers</u> English glossary of common legal terms in plain English.</p> <p><u>National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators (NAJIT)</u> Professional organization of court interpreters and legal translators. Conference announcements, degree programs, discussion groups, publications, links.</p> <p><u>Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)</u> Professional organization of interpreters for the deaf, including court interpreting. Information on training, certification, ethics, ADA, frequently asked questions, links.</p>
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-793-2013 or sakbar@illinoiscourts.gov.

Sincerely,

Sophia Akbar
AOIC Language Access Services Specialist