

In response to the need for **consistent quality interpretation** across all public service sectors, the Ontario Council on Community Interpreting (OCCI) has developed a progressive and responsive **accreditation process for interpreters** working in the **community services sectors**.

Limited English/French Proficiency individuals in Canada **need access to quality service**, in both urban and rural communities; and, interpreters **need professional accreditation** that will be recognized and valued. These needs are felt across the country and the work of the OCCI is aligned with initiatives at the national level.

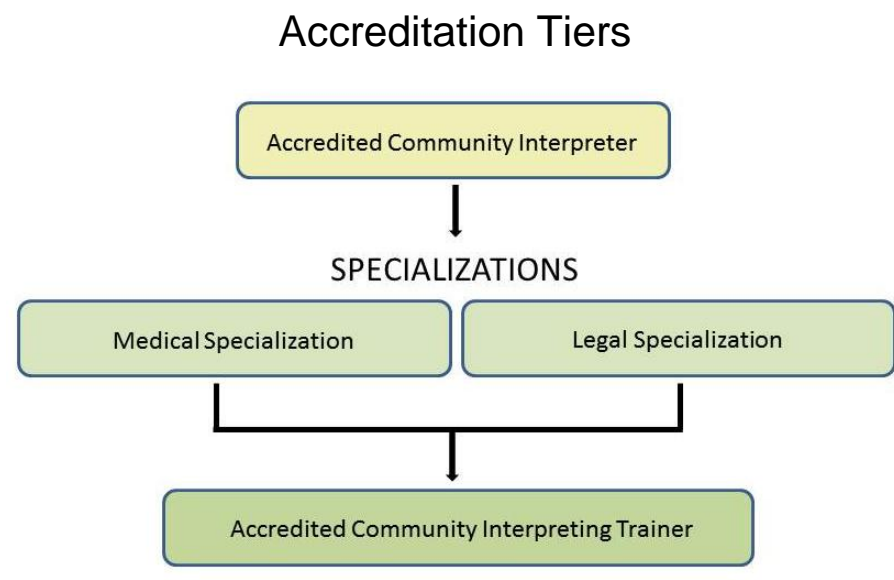
A standardized accreditation process will **take away the guesswork** about interpreter qualifications for individuals working with interpreters, and will bring us closer to the common goal of **professionalizing the Community Interpreting sector**.

The OCCI is unique in its approach of consultation with stakeholders and community members from across the province:

- Interpreters • Public Service Providers • Interpreter Trainers •
- Interpretation Service Providers • Individuals facing language barriers •

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visit www.occ.ca



APLI has generously agreed to support the administration process of OCCI accreditation. Interpreters interested in applying for accreditation can visit www.aplicanada.org/accreditation or email occi@aplicanada.org

Categories and Requirements for Accrediting Community Interpreters

1.0 Pre-Requisites/Requirements

- 1.1 English proficiency assessment for non-native English Speaker* (e.g. IELTS, TOEFL or college language assessment)
- 1.2 Post-secondary credentials or equivalent
- 1.3 Language Interpreter Test (e.g. CILISAT, ILSAT)
- 1.4 Post-Secondary Training in interpreting: Successful completion of the Language Interpreting Training Program (LITP) (College Certificate) - Curriculum of 180 hours or Glendon Graduate Diploma in General Interpreting (GDGI)
- 1.5 Membership in a professional association of interpreters e.g. APLI, ATIO

*Exemptions for pre-requisite 1.1 may be provided based on demonstration from the candidate that English was the language of instruction of formal education at the secondary and/or post-secondary levels for at least 2 years.

2.0 Specializations

2.1 Medical

- 2.1.1 Accredited Community Interpreter
- 2.1.2 Training on medical interpreting competency
- 2.1.3 Successful completion of Medical interpreting competency Test
- 2.1.4 250 hours documented medical interpreting experience

2.2 Legal

- 2.2.1 Accredited Community Interpreter
- 2.2.2 Training on legal interpreting competency
- 2.2.3 Successful completion of Legal interpreting competency Test
- 2.2.4 250 hours documented legal interpreting experience

2.3 Accredited Trainer

- 2.3.1 Accredited Community Interpreter
- 2.3.2 Adult education training
- 2.3.3. 600 hours documented interpreting experience
- 2.3.4 9 hours minimum of observation in LITP classroom

3.0 Continuing education

- 10 hours of Professional Development per 1 year period

4.0 Grandfathering protocols

- All interpreters trained prior to Jan 1, 2015 will be evaluated according to established OCCI accreditation requirements for recognition.

5.0 FAQ

Q: What will an ISP do, if an accredited interpreter is not available?

A: In the event that an Accredited Interpreter is not available, the Interpreting Service Provider will ensure to:

- Use professionally skilled, competent interpreters who are otherwise qualified by education, training and experience to carry out the assignment successfully.
- Use "on dossier" processes to select the most competent interpreters on file.
- Assign the most qualified interpreter possible based upon the nature of the assignment and the language in question.
- Properly monitor, assess and modify on an ongoing basis the interpreter's data status based upon performance.

6.0 Ethical considerations

- Interpreting Service Providers (ISPs) must inform the client if an accredited community interpreter is not available and a non-accredited alternative has been provided.