

# OCCI Ontario Council on Community Interpreting

September 18, 2015

Dear Interpretation Service Provider;

You will be receiving requests for a confirmation of work hours from interpreters who are applying to become specialized Accredited Community Interpreters through the accreditation process developed and overseen by the Ontario Council on Community Interpreting (OCCI). In order to meet the accreditation requirements for Legal and/or Medical Specialization, applicants must submit documentation of interpretation experience hours in legal and/or medical settings, respectively.

The vision of the OCCI is an Ontario where everyone has equal access to public services regardless of the language they speak. In order for this to happen, it is imperative that trained and qualified interpreters be available for service in the community. In 2013, the OCCI was formed to develop an accreditation framework, and as of July 1st, 2015, the OCCI began accepting applications for accreditation as Accredited Community Interpreter (ACI), ACI Legal Specialization, and ACI Medical Specialization.

Interpreters applying to be accredited for ACI Legal and/or Medical Specialization must provide documentation of 250 hours of interpreting experience in legal and/or medical settings, respectively. For that reason we require applicants to identify the hours spent in the specialized interpreting setting(s).

Professional community interpreters need an accreditation that is recognized and marketable across the province and, eventually, the country. The title of OCCI Accredited Community Interpreter (ACI) will be the credential that agencies and interpretation service consumers will look for when hiring an interpreter in the legal, healthcare, social services, education, and private sectors.

For further information, please visit the OCCI website at [www.occ.ca](http://www.occ.ca). Details about the accreditation tiers and requirements are available for download by clicking [here](#).

With thanks for your support,

The OCCI Accreditation Committee

[www.occ.ca](http://www.occ.ca)  
[occi@aplicanada.org](mailto:occi@aplicanada.org)