

2014-2015 ORAL EXAMINATION APPLICATION FOR ILLINOIS COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM

The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) administers a court interpreter written examination, developed by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), to test whether candidates possess the minimum levels of language knowledge and interpreting skills required to perform competently during court proceedings. The test measures language knowledge and fluency in both languages and the ability to successfully render meaning from source to target language in each of the three modes of interpreting that are required of court interpreters. The three modes of interpreting include: simultaneous interpreting; consecutive interpreting; and sight translation of documents.

A full oral examination is available in the following languages: Cantonese, French, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Ilocano, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. An abbreviated oral examination is available in the following languages: Arabic (Modern Standard) – Sight and Simultaneous only; Arabic (Egyptian Colloquial or Levantine Colloquial) – Consecutive only; Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian (BSC), Chuukese; Marshallese; and Turkish. If your language is not listed, then you are not able to take an oral examination. **The fee for a Spanish oral exam is \$170. The fee for all other languages is \$200.**

The passing level is an overall score of 70% or higher. For the Sight Translation part, test candidates must score 65% or higher on each individual portion of the Sight Translation with an overall score of 70% or higher. The tests are graded by a team of NCSC-approved test raters. Interpreters will receive their test scores as soon after the test date as is practical.

Retake Policy: If another version of the oral test is available, the interpreter candidate must wait at least six (6) months before retaking it. An interpreter may take the same version of the test after twelve (12) months, but no interpreter will be allowed to take any version of the oral examination more than twice unless the AOIC Language Access Services Specialist determines a valid reason for doing so exists. If an interpreter candidate passes one or two parts of the oral examination, he or she may retake only that section or sections the candidate did not pass up to a period of eighteen (18) months from the date the test candidate first took the oral examination. If a test candidate does not pass the remaining section(s) of the oral examination within an 18-month period, he or she must retake the entire oral exam and a new 18-month period will commence.

Rescore Policy: If a test candidate passes two parts of the oral examination and scores 67% or higher on the third part, an automatic rescore will be done on the failed section. If a test candidate passes one part of the oral examination and scores 67% or higher on the remaining two parts, an automatic rescore will be done on the two failed sections. The AOIC will bear the cost of automatic rescoring. The score(s) on any re-rated section will be considered the final score(s) of the candidate. No test candidate may request a re-score.

Fee Waiver for Full-time County Staff Interpreters. Full-time staff interpreters employed by the circuit court are eligible to have the oral examination fee waived for the first examination only. If a candidate fails the examination and elects to retake the examination, or retake any part(s) of the examination, subsequent fees will not be waived. Court administrators must confirm the list of eligible full-time staff interpreters for each circuit court to the AOIC. For the purposes of the fee waiver, "full-time" employment is defined as working a minimum of 37.5 hours a week with benefits.

ORAL EXAMINATION APPLICATION

I attended the following written examination and achieved the following score

Dates (MM/DD/YYYY)	Location (City, State)	Score (%)

The following dates are available for the oral exam. Once you pick a date that works best for you, the AOIC will contact you to schedule the exact time of your exam. The full examination takes one hour to complete.

Select Date	Location	Date
	AOIC Chicago office 222 N LaSalle St., 13 th floor Chicago, IL 60601	Friday, July 17 th 2015 Deadline to register: June 15 th
	AOIC Chicago office 222 N LaSalle St., 13 th floor Chicago, IL 60601	Friday, July 24 th 2015 Deadline to register: June 15 th
	AOIC Chicago office 222 N LaSalle St., 13 th floor Chicago, IL 60601	Friday, July 31 st 2015 Deadline to register: June 15 th
	AOIC Springfield office 3101 Old Jacksonville Rd. Springfield, IL	Friday, October 30 th , 2015 Deadline to register: October 5 th
If you have already taken the oral exam and need to retake the exam 6 months after your exam date, please contact Sophia Akbar.		

I will be taking the full oral examination (consecutive, simultaneous and sight translation).

I have already taken the oral examination but only passed one or two portions of the exam. I will be retaking the following portions of the oral examination:

- Consecutive – Spanish (\$85), other languages (\$100)
- Simultaneous – Spanish (\$42.50), other languages (\$50)
- Sight Translation – Spanish (\$42.50), other languages (\$50)

Name of Applicant	Language	Date
Phone Number	Email address	

Two-step registration process:

- 1) Please **complete this application form and send it to Sophia Akbar** at sakbar@illinoiscourts.gov as an email attachment, or mail it to Sophia Akbar at the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, 222 N. LaSalle., 13th floor, Chicago, IL 60601, or fax it to 312-793-1335. The AOIC will contact you to schedule a time slot for your examination on your preferred date.
- 2) To complete your registration, please **send page 2 of this registration form along with your fee** in the form of a certified check, money order or personal check. The fee for a full Spanish oral exam is \$170 (or \$85 for consecutive portion, \$42.50 for simultaneous portion, \$42.50 for sight translation portion). The fee for all other languages is \$200 (or \$100 for consecutive portion, \$50 for simultaneous portion, \$50 for sight translation portion). Please identify the payee as *State of Illinois Treasurer*. The Administrative Office will accept only certified checks, money orders or personal checks at this time. Please send your fee to the following address:
Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, Language Access Program, 3101 Old Jacksonville Road, Springfield, Illinois 62704. If you are eligible for a fee waiver (see p.1) then you do not need to pay a fee.