



OREGON JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
Court Interpreter Services

OREGON EXAM RECIPROCITY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Oregon exam reciprocity and what does it mean to me?

If you have taken and passed an equivalent oral examination in another state, you may qualify for exam reciprocity in Oregon.

Exam reciprocity means that Oregon will honor your scores on an oral interpreting exam taken outside of Oregon, as long as the requirements listed below are met. If Oregon does grant exam reciprocity on your scores, you will not have to retake the oral interpreting exam in Oregon. If your scores are deemed acceptable you will have to fulfill the additional certification requirements that all Oregon certified interpreters must complete.

Who is eligible for Oregon exam reciprocity?

The Oregon Judicial Department's Court Interpreter Services Program will grant exam reciprocity to interpreters who have passed the federal court interpreting oral exam or the Consortium court interpreting oral performance examinations administered and rated in accordance with Oregon requirements:

- The examination must be developed by the consortium
- All modes of interpreting must be tested in one sitting
- All segments must be passed during one testing cycle
- During a single exam testing cycle the candidate must not have tested previously in another state
- The test scores must meet Oregon's acceptable minimum scores on each segment.

What additional certification requirements do I need to fulfill before I can apply for reciprocity?

Before being awarded the Oregon Certified Court Interpreter Credential via reciprocity, an interpreter must do the following:

- Submit documentation that the interpreter has passed an equivalent exam



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- Submit verification that the interpreter remains in good standing in another state
- Fulfill the following credential steps
 - Pass a criminal history check
 - Attend the Ethics Orientation
 - Pass the Ethics Exam
 - Complete and submit documentation of 150 hours of court interpreting work within the previous 12 months
 - Complete the application process
 - Take the Interpreter's Oath given by an Oregon State Court Judge.

How do I begin the reciprocity process?

In order to begin the reciprocity process, send an email to court.interpreter.program@ojd.state.or.us with documentation that you have passed an equivalent oral exam, and verification that you remain in good standing in another state. Court Interpreter Services will then notify you of the dates of the ethics exam. Upon completion of the ethics exam, you will receive a reciprocity application that will need to be completed and sent to Court Interpreter Services, along with supporting documentation as listed in the application.

When will I be able to work in Oregon as a certified interpreter?

Once you have completed the reciprocity application packet, you will need to take the Interpreter's Oath given by an Oregon State Court Judge. You are eligible to begin working in Oregon as a certified interpreter as soon as the oath is taken.