



Court Language  
Access Services

# Five Things You Can Do **NOW** to Prepare for Court Interpreter Certification

## Become Familiar with The Certification Process

Court Language Access Services has created videos to help you understand the Oregon Court Interpreter Certification Process, and the Certification Exams.

- [Introduction to Oregon Court Interpreter Certification and Certification Exams](#)

## Court Observation

Most Oregon Courts are open to the public for observation. It will be helpful to understand the role of the court interpreter by reading the Code of Professional Responsibility for Interpreters in the Oregon Courts. After carefully reviewing the Code, an interpreter candidate can begin doing court observation to improve legal vocabulary and to learn court proceedings and protocol.

- [Court observation helpful Tips](#)
- [Observation Log](#)
- [Guided Observation Exercise](#)

## Build Your Legal Vocabulary

Court interpreting has its own special set of challenges and the hearings range from minor traffic infractions to domestic dissolutions to criminal trials. Being bilingual is not sufficient to meet the high standard that is required to interpret for court proceedings. Court interpreters must have knowledge and vocabulary of court proceedings and court procedures.

- [National Center for State Courts Legal Glossaries and Dictionaries](#)
- [How to Study Specialized Terminology for the Oral Exam](#)
- [CLAS Resources Page \(Legal Dictionaries & Glossaries\)](#)



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## Written Exam Preparation

The written examination is a multiple-choice exam designed by the National Center for State Courts to measure: general knowledge of court interpreting, the English language, court related vocabulary and usage, ethics and professional conduct. The written exam must be passed with a score of 80 percent or higher.

- [Written Exam Overview video and materials](#)
- [How to Study for the Written Exam video and materials](#)
- [CLAS Resources Page](#)

## Oral Exam Preparation

The Court Interpreting Oral Examination is an oral exam designed by the National Center for State Courts to measure the candidate's interpreting skills in the sight, consecutive, and simultaneous modes of interpretation. The Oral Exam must be passed with a score of 70 percent or higher on each of the modes of interpretation.

- [Oral Exam Overview video and materials](#)
- [How to Study for the Oral Exam video and materials](#)
- [OJD Oral Exam Prep Essentials](#)
  - Chunking Shadowing and Paraphrasing
  - Introduction to Consecutive Interpretation and Notetaking
  - Introduction to Simultaneous Interpretation
  - Introduction to Sight Interpretation
- [CLAS Resources Page](#)