

Comparing National Healthcare Interpreter Exams

A Reference Sheet Compiled by the Oregon Health Care Interpreters Association

	National Board for Certified Medical Interpreters (NBCMI) CMI – Certified Medical Interpreter	Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) CHI™ – Certified Healthcare Interpreter
Languages	Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese	CHI level for Arabic, Mandarin, Spanish
Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum 18 years of age 2. High school diploma or GED diploma 3. Minimum 40 hours of health care interpreter training 4. <i>If have worked as a health care interpreter for at least 1 year in the last 2 years for <u>Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, or Vietnamese</u>, then proof of employment in place of proof of language proficiency</i> 5. <i>Or, proof of oral proficiency in English by <u>one</u> below:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bachelor, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from any US institution of higher education b. Graduation from any high school in an English language country or from an American School abroad c. One of the following tests: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. TOEFL: 570+ on paper; 230+ on computer version; 90+ on iBT ii. ELPT: 950+ iii. MELAB: 80+ iv. ECPE: PASS v. FCE: A vi. CAE: B vii. CPE: B viii. IELTS: 7.0 6. <i>Proof of oral proficiency in target language by <u>one</u> below:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bachelors, Masters, PhD, or any other degree from an institution of higher education where the target language is spoken b. Graduation from a high school of the country where the target language is spoken c. 24+ semester college credit hours of the target language d. ACTFL Orals Exams: Advanced Mid Level 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum 18 years of age 2. High school diploma or GED diploma 3. Minimum 40 hours of health care interpreter training 4. Language proficiency in English and the target language <p>Note: Requirements are met by describing them in the application. Providing evidence of requirements is not required at the time of application, but applicants are randomly audited and then asked to provide evidence.</p>

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Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Registration: \$35 (free for Oregon residents testing in a language other than Spanish)</i> • <i>Written Exam: \$175</i> • <i>Oral Exam: \$275 (\$235 for Oregon residents testing in a language other than Spanish)</i> • <i>Total for Spanish: \$485</i> • <i>Total for other languages: \$410 (for Oregon residents)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Registration: \$35 (\$15 for Oregon residents, any language)</i> • <i>CoreCHI Written Exam: \$175 (For Oregon residents: \$155 until 12/31/15, after that - check at the time of payment)</i> • <i>Oral CHI Performance Exam: \$275</i> • <i>Total for CHI level: \$485 (For Oregon residents: \$445, until 12/31/15, after that - check at the time of payment)</i>
Testing Details	<p>Written Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam is offered year round, online or at a testing center • 51 multiple choice questions, 75 minutes to complete <p>Oral Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam is offered year round, online or at a testing center • 12 mini-scenarios, 2 sight translation passages, 45-60 minutes to complete 	<p>CoreCHI Written Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam is offered year round at a testing center • 100 multiple choice questions, 2 hours to complete <p>Oral CHI Performance Exam:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam is offered 4 testing windows a year at a testing center • 4 consecutive, 2 simultaneous, and 1 sight translation interpreting vignettes; 1 multiple choice question; 60 minutes to complete (plus 30 min instructions/prep time before the beginning of the exam)
Recertification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 5 years • No retesting required • Proof of 3.0 Continuing Education Units (30 hours) • Application due at least 45 days before the 5 year mark • Renewal Cost: \$300 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 4 years • No retesting required • Years 1-2: 16 hours continuing education, 20 hours healthcare interpreting experience • Years 3-4: 16 hours continuing education, 20 hours healthcare interpreting experience • Two renewal applications (for years 1-2 and 3-4) must be submitted at least 30 days before the 4 year mark • Renewal Cost: \$150 per application (\$300 total)
Website	http://www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org/	http://www.cchicertification.org/
Contact	staff@certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org 765-633-2378	CMSSpecialist@cchicertification.org 866-969-6665

**This reference sheet was last updated in May 2015 and is subject to change.
This information has been reviewed by the NBCMI and the CCHI for accuracy.**

*Information courtesy of the Oregon Health Care Interpreters Association
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