

BECOMING A COURT INTERPRETER IN THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE COURTS

Thank you for your interest in becoming a professional court interpreter. Candidates must have a high-level language proficiency and court-specific interpreting skills to be a court interpreter. To become a certified North Carolina Court Interpreter, you must:

1) Attend the NC Court Interpreter Orientation Training Session and pass the Written Screening Tests. This is a two-and-a-half-day commitment. The written screening tests will be administered on the last half-day of the Orientation. You can register online for the orientation and the written screening tests at https://www.nccourts.gov/programs/office-of-language-access-services/do-you-want-to-be-a-court-interpreter. The registration fee for the training and the rating of the written screening tests is \$160. The training is language neutral, so interpreters for all languages must attend.

2) Submit a completed AOC-A-207 Application to be a Registered Court Interpreter: Once a candidate attends the orientation and passes the written screening tests, an application, which can be found online at https://www.nccourts.gov/documents/forms/application-to-be-a-registered-court-interpreter, must be completed. A criminal background check will be run.

3) NCCICE Candidates: The NCCICE is only available in certain languages. See https://www.ncsc.org/data/assets/pdf_file/0019/74512/Oral_Exam_Ready_for_Administration-March-2022.pdf for a list of languages eligible for the NCCICE.

Candidates must attend a Skill Building Workshop approved by NCAOC to be eligible to sit for the NC Court Interpreter Certification Examination (NCCICE). There are weekend workshops and intensive online trainings available. See https://www.nccourts.gov/programs/office-of-language-access-services/resources-for-interpreters for up-to-date training opportunities. Proof of successfully completing a skill building workshop must be submitted to OLAS via email.

All other Language Candidates: Your registration application will be reviewed and approved by the Manager of the Office of Language Access Services (OLAS). If a NCCICE is not available for your language of expertise, then an approved OPI (oral proficiency interview) should be completed to demonstrate your language proficiency in the language of expertise. LOTS interpreters are assigned on a case-by-case basis with preference given first to the most qualified.

4) N.C. Court Interpreter Certification Examination (NCCICE): Candidates will be emailed a link to the registration form and must pay a registration fee. You must score 70% or higher on each of the three sections of the NCCICE to pass. Final approval of the candidate lies with NCAOC. *For more specific information, see N.C. Court Interpreter Certification Information here:* <u>https://www.nccourts.gov/programs/office-of-language-access-services/resources-for-interpreters</u>

5) Contracting with NCAOC – Spanish Candidates: Upon receiving acceptable test scores, your registration application will be approved by the Manager of OLAS and sent to the NCAOC General Services Division requesting a contract be extended to you as a Level A1 – Master Certified, Level A2 – Certified, or Level B – Conditionally Qualified Court Interpreter for the Spanish language. Upon receiving a signed and initialed contract from you, your name and contact information will be placed on the NCAOC Registry of Spoken Foreign Language Court Interpreters available online for all Language Access Coordinators (LACs), attorneys, and agencies to access when the services of a Spanish court interpreter are needed.

Please feel free to contact the NCAOC Office of Language Access Services with any additional questions.

Email: <u>OLAS@nccourts.org</u>	Phone: 919-890-1407	Website: <u>www.NCcourts.gov/LanguageAccess</u>