



Certified Provisional Interpreter (CPI) test

Information sheet for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages

Contact the Indigenous Interpreting team by email at iip@naati.com.au if you need help understanding this information sheet.

Before applying for CPI testing	
Expression of interest	Interpreters interested in becoming certified must provide evidence of English proficiency and interpreter training (at least 40 hours) before they can sit a CPI test. Complete the Expression of Interest online to check in on these prerequisites and determine next steps.
ECIC	All interpreters must pass their NAATI Ethical Competency test and Intercultural Competency test (ECIC) before sitting the CPI test.
CPI preparation	NAATI offers short online courses and practice dialogues on NAATI Learn to assist candidates to prepare for CPI tests. Please should arrive at testing workshops with clear expectations about CPI testing. Contact NAATI for support with your preparation.

Preparation and testing workshop	
Workshop organisation	<p>When candidates have met the prerequisites and are ready for CPI testing, they can request that NAATI organise a face-to-face workshop for final preparation training, a practice test with role-players and the test sitting.</p> <p>Generally, only one or two languages will be tested at a time due to the complexity of preparing role-players and dialogues for each language. The maximum number of candidates for a workshop is 10.</p>
Workshop overview	The workshop will consist of 3 days of training and practice tests followed by a day or two of testing (depending on number of languages and candidates)
What NAATI provides	NAATI will provide lunch and light snacks for the workshop days. NAATI will organise or cover travel costs for candidates to travel to a central location to sit the test.
Task Briefs	Interpreters will receive the 3 task briefs the day before the test. You should read, research and prepare to interpret for these three scenarios.

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The test	
Test description	<p>The Certified Provisional Interpreter test assesses your ability to provide quality, professional interpreting of non-specialised dialogues commonly encountered in daily-life situations, using the consecutive interpreting mode.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two consecutive interpreting face-to-face dialogue tasks • One consecutive interpreting remote dialogue task <p>Each task involves a different situation from a different domain and is a live role-play. There will be two role-players involved in each task, one English-speaking and one speaking the other language.</p>
Domains & situations	All tasks deal with situations set in different domains where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interpreters may be engaged. These domains include health, legal, community, education, social services, finance, housing, business, employment, etc.
Duration	Each task takes around 12 minutes. The whole test (3 tasks) takes about 1.5hrs, but tasks may be split over break times depending on workshop timetabling.
Supervision and recording	<p>All test tasks are audio/video recorded for assessment purposes.</p> <p>NAATI staff manage logistics, the equipment recording your test, start and finish times, and any other issues. A NAATI staff member will be in each room and will tell you when to move between the different rooms.</p>

On test day	
What to bring	<p>The test rooms will have water, a pen and paper ready for you.</p> <p>Bring your task briefs and any notes you have made (max 3 pages)</p>
Professional conduct	<p>NAATI staff will confirm the candidate order and timing of tests the day before. Please be on time for your test. If you are late, NAATI cannot guarantee you will be able to sit the test.</p> <p>You are expected to be courteous and respectful towards NAATI staff, role-players and other interpreters. If you are rude or abusive towards NAATI staff, supervisors or other interpreters, you will be asked to leave and will not be allowed to sit your CPI test.</p>

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About the two face-to-face dialogues	<p>You will use consecutive mode to interpret two face-to-face dialogues between two role-players about the topic and situation described in your interpreting brief.</p> <p>For each task, the role-play begins as soon as you enter the Test Room. The English s-speaking role-player will greet you, introduce themselves and ask you to introduce yourself to the Language speaker. NAATI examiners will not assess this introductory part.</p> <p>The English-speaking role-player will say “Ok, let’s start”, and from then on, your interpreting will be assessed. You must interpret what the role-players say and interact with the role-players to accurately transfer the meaning between them.</p> <p>Each task will go for up to 12 minutes.</p>
About the phone dialogue	<p>You will use consecutive mode to interpret a remote dialogue between two role-players about the topic and situation described in your interpreting brief. The role-players are in a separate room from you for this task.</p> <p>In the Test Room, the test supervisor will direct you to sit at a table with a telephone. You will use the hands-free (speakerphone) function, which the supervisor will explain to you.</p> <p>When the phone rings you should answer it and say ‘hello’. The role-play begins as soon as you answer the telephone. An English-speaking booking officer will ask if you are available to do a telephone interpreting job. You will accept the job, then the booking officer will connect you to the role-players. The English role-player will introduce themselves and the situation and ask you to introduce yourself to the client in Language. NAATI examiners will not assess this introductory part.</p> <p>The English-speaking role-player will say “Ok, let’s start”, and from then on, your interpreting will be assessed. You must interpret what the role-players say and interact with the role-players to accurately transfer the meaning between them.</p> <p>This task will go for up to 12 minutes.</p>
Confidentiality	<p>All test materials are the property of NAATI. You are not permitted to make or take away copies, paper or electronic, of any test material, or reproduce the test or communicate the test content to a third party.</p>

<p>Interacting with role-players</p>	<p>As the interpreter, you should listen to what the role-players say and transfer the meaning accurately. However, there will be instances during the test when you can't hear or understand the speakers. For example, this might happen if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role-players speak for an extended period • the role-players mumble or talk at the same time • there is a distracting noise or other interference • the phone cuts out, or • a role-player uses a phrase you don't know <p>You should use a range of strategies to deal with these issues, like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ask the role-player to repeat or clarify what they have said • ask the role-player to pause or slow down • ask the role-player to speak louder or softer • insert a correction if you realise you have made an error, or • use other strategies to transfer meaning or otherwise manage the interaction. <p>You will not be marked down for using strategies if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they result in accurate transfer of meaning, • you are courteous • you inform the other role-player about what occurred <p>the flow of the conversation is NOT hindered</p>
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Assessment	
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>At least 2 NAATI examiners will assess your performance in the test. They will assess each task separately, using an assessment rubric.</p> <p>Your task performance will be marked against 6 skills: Meaning transfer skill, Application of Interpreting Mode (Consecutive), Interactional management skill, Delivery skill, Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer into the target language (both English proficiency and Language proficiency)</p> <p>You must pass all three tasks to pass the test. You can find detailed information about the assessment rubrics and criteria on the website.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>NAATI will email you (or your sponsor organization) your results within 10 weeks of testing.</p>
<p>Supplementary testing</p>	<p>You must attempt all three tasks and pass two of them to be eligible to apply for a supplementary test. The supplementary test will involve re-sitting only the failed task. If you pass the supplementary test, NAATI will award you the Certified Provisional Interpreter credential.</p>