

Language Access Services Section

National Center for State Courts

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NCSC releases 2012 annual report

NCSC has released its annual report. Throughout 2012, the NCSC focused on access to justice, which is the theme of this year's report.

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HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

NCSC can help you address challenges within your court in many ways.

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NCSC releases 2012 annual

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THIS WEEK AT NCSC

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EVENTS

Staff discussing data requirements in Md.

Apr. 15-16 | Staff members are meeting with Maryland's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to discuss data requirements for its National Judicial Reporting Program (NJRP) felony project in Annapolis.

CEC Director presenting to Pa. Supreme Court

Apr. 16 | The director of NCSC's Center for Elders and the Courts is making a presentation on national reform efforts on guardianship and elder abuse to the Pa. Supreme Court's Elder Law Task Force in Harrisburg.

Course teaches concept of adaptive leadership

Apr. 16-18 | Institute for Court Management faculty will offer its *Leadership* course at NCSC headquarters in Williamsburg, Virginia, as part of the Certified Court Executive (CCE) program.

Join our discussion!

Should courts allow citizens the option of volunteering for jury duty?

[in](#) Join NCSC on LinkedIn to share your thoughts.

Call Center

LASS Staff:**Konstantina Vagenas**

Director/Chief Counsel,
Language and Access to Justice
Initiatives

703-841-6901

Carola Green

Coordinator for Court Interpreting
Testing Services and Operations

703-841-6901

Nikiesha Cosby

Program Specialist

703-841-6901

Mayra Miranda

Program Specialist

703-841-6901

Resources for Program Managers

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- Appellate Justice
- Caseload & Workflow management
- Children & Families
- Civil justice
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- Emergency planning & Security
- Facilities planning
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- Language access
- Organizational management
- Performance measurement
- Problem solving courts
- Sentencing & Probation
- Technology
- Workload assessment

COURT LEADERSHIP

COURT REENGINEERING

Resources for Program Managers

State resources



State search (map). Find details on each state's language access program, code of ethics, testing schedule, and process for interpreter scheduling, budgeting, and more.

MORE

- [About Us](#)
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- [Resources for Court Interpreters](#)
- [NCSC Language Access Resource Guide](#)

State-specific resources.

 Includes state bench books and resource guides; interpreter discipline and payment policies; and sign language and other training resources.

Council of Language Access Coordinators

Operating Procedures. Review the operating procedures which provide a structural framework for CLAC members.

Charter. Learn the details about CLAC's purpose, organizational relationships, meetings and more.

Guides and standards

Testing Manual for Program Managers

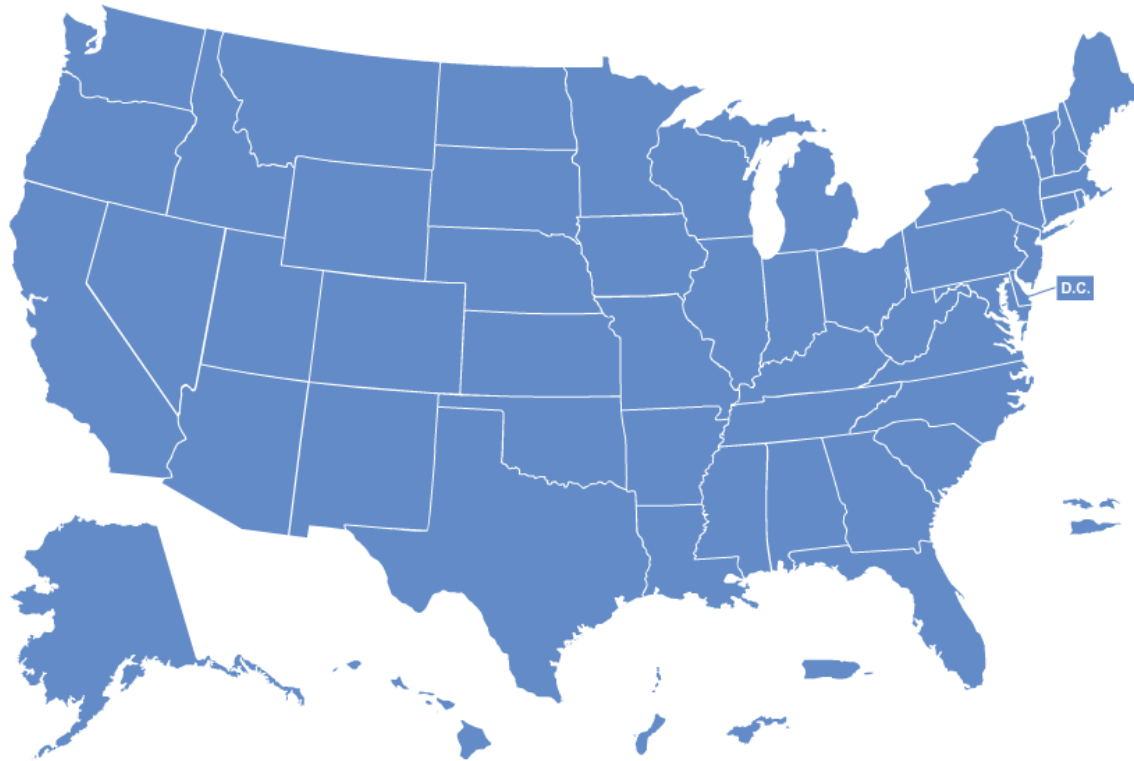
Guide to Translation of Legal Materials

Language Identification Guide

American Bar Association Standards for Language Access in Courts. These standards are intended to assist courts in designing, implementing, and enforcing a comprehensive system of language access services that is suited to the needs of the communities they serve.

DOJ Guidance: Provides Department of Justice guidance in regards to translation and language access issues in the courts.

Language Access Programs by State



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Alaska (joined 2004)

Language Access Coordinator Contact
 Brenda Aiken, Resource Development Officer
 Alaska Court System
 820 W. 4th Avenue
 Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 264-8266
Email: baiken@courts.state.ak.us
Website: <http://courts.alaska.gov/court-interpreting.htm>

Code of Ethics or Rules of Professional Conduct

Language Access Plan

Interpreter Statutes and Rules

Coordination/Supervision of Interpreters: Centralized State Program

Cost of Interpreting Services (including fees to freelance and salaries of staff interpreters): \$50,000-\$100,000

Budget for Language Access Program (not including direct interpreter services): \$0-\$50,000

Funding for Language Access Program: Comes from registration fees

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (spoken language): Currently Unknown

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (sign language): Currently Unknown

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified spoken language): \$50-\$75 per hour

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified sign language): \$75-\$100 per hour

Difference in Pay Between Spanish and LOTS Interpreters: Currently Unknown

Minimum Certification Requirements: Orientation Workshop, NCSC 135-Q Multiple Choice Exam at 80%, Written Language Assessment or Written Translation, Criminal or Background Check, Pass NCSC Oral Examination at 70%, Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) in English

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Kentucky



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Kentucky (joined 2001)

Language Access Coordinator Contact

Ervin Dimeny, Manager, Court Interpreting
Court Interpreting Services
Administrative Office of the Courts
100 Millcreek Park
Frankfort, KY 40601-9230
Phone: (502) 573-2350
Email: ervindimeny@kycourts.net
Website: <http://courts.ky.gov/courtprograms/CIS/Pages/default.aspx>

Code of Ethics or Rules of Professional Conduct

Language Access Plan

Interpreter Statutes and Rules

Coordination/Supervision of Interpreters: Centralized State Program

Cost of Interpreter Services (including fees to freelance and salaries of staff interpreters): \$1 Million - \$5 Million

Budget for Language Access Program (not including direct interpreter services): Currently Unknown

Funding for Language Access Program: Legislative Appropriation

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (spoken language): \$25,000 - \$50,000

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (sign language): \$25,000 - \$50,000

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified spoken language): \$25 - \$50 per hour

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TECHNOLOGY TOOLS

Wisconsin (joined 1998)

Language Access Coordinator Contact

Carmel Capati, Court Interpreter Program Manager
Director of State Courts
Office of Court Operations
110 East Main Street, Suite 410
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 266-8635
Email: carmel.capati@wicourts.gov
Website: <http://www.wicourts.gov/services/interpreter/index.htm>

Code of Ethics or Rules of Professional Conduct

Language Access Plan

Interpreter Statutes and Rules

Coordination/Supervision of Interpreters: Credentialed or Certified at State Level, Scheduled at Local Level

Cost of Interpreter Services, Including Fees to Freelance and Salaries of Staff Interpreters: \$1 Million - \$5 Million

Budget for Language Access Program, Not Including Direct Interpreter Services: \$50,000 - \$100,000

Funding for Language Access Program: Court's General Operating Budget. Funding for training and testing of interpreters comes from registration fees

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (spoken language): \$25,000 - \$50,000

Compensation Range for Salaried Interpreters (sign language): Currently Unknown

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified spoken language): \$25 - \$50 per hour

Compensation Range for Freelance Interpreters (certified sign language): \$50 - \$75 per hour

Difference in Pay between Spanish and LOTS Interpreters: Interpreters in Wisconsin are generally contractors who are paid hourly, so LOTS interpreter may get a 2 hour minimum and \$10-\$20 more than Spanish

Minimum Certification Requirements: Orientation Workshop, NCSC 135-Q Multiple Choice Exam at 80%, Written Language Assessment or Written Translation, Criminal or Background Check, Oath of Office, Pass NCSC Oral Examination at 70%

2013 Dates and Locations of Testing and Training:

2-Day Orientation

Resources for Program Managers

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Resources for Program Managers

STATE RESOURCES

State search (map). Find details on each state's language access program, code of ethics, testing schedule, and process for interpreter scheduling, budgeting, and more.



State-specific resources. Includes state bench books and resource guides; interpreter discipline and payment policies; and sign language and other training resources.

Operating Procedures. Review the operating procedures which provide a structural framework for CLAC members.

Other Resources. [Testing Manual for Program Managers](#) , [Guide to Translation of Legal Materials](#) ,and [Language Identification Guide](#)

Charter. CLAC Charter

American Bar Association Standards for Language Access in Courts. These standards are intended to assist courts in designing, implementing, and enforcing a comprehensive system of language access services that is suited to the needs of the communities they serve.

DOJ Guidance: Link providing DOJ guidance in regards to language access issues in the courts regarding translation.

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Resources for Court Interpreters

The screenshot displays the NCSC (National Center for State Courts) website. The header features the NCSC logo with 'EST. 1971' and the tagline 'Trusted Leadership. Proven Solutions. Better Courts.' To the right is a search bar and a 'MY CENTER LOGIN' section with fields for 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: 'Newsroom | Publications | About Us | Contact | Donate'. A secondary navigation bar contains 'INFORMATION & RESOURCES', 'SERVICES & EXPERTS', 'EDUCATION & CAREERS', 'CONFERENCES & EVENTS', and 'NCSC International'. The main content area is titled 'NCSC > EDUCATION & CAREERS > STATE INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION'. On the left is a sidebar menu with links: 'COURSES', 'CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS', 'CIVICS EDUCATION', 'ICM FELLOWS', 'PRODUCTION SERVICES', 'STATE INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION', 'FEDERAL INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION', and 'JOBS'. The main content area has the heading 'State Interpreter Certification' and a sub-heading 'So you want to be a court interpreter?'. The text describes the requirements for professional court interpreters. Below this is a section 'Resources for court interpreters' with links to 'Self-assessment tools, study resources, glossaries and dictionaries', 'Colleges and universities', 'Written and Oral Exam resources', 'Court interpreter compensation and salaries', and 'Related interpretation websites'. On the right is a 'RELATED RESOURCES' box with links to 'Contact Persons and Testing Schedules by State' and 'Interpreter Events and Workshops'. At the bottom right of this box is a section 'FEDERAL COURT INTERPRETERS' with text about becoming a federal court interpreter. The footer contains a navigation bar with links: 'Home | Information & Resources | Services & Experts | Education & Careers | Conferences & Events | NCSC International' and a note 'Online research services provided by'.

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JOBS

State Interpreter Certification

So you want to be a court interpreter?

Professional court interpreters are individuals who possess an educated, native-like mastery of both English and a second language; display wide general knowledge, characteristic of what a minimum of two years of general education at a college or university would provide; and perform the three major types of court interpreting: **sight translation, consecutive interpreting, and simultaneous interpreting.**

Resources for court interpreters

Self-assessment tools, study resources, glossaries and dictionaries

Colleges and universities

Written and Oral Exam resources

Court interpreter compensation and salaries

Related interpretation websites

RELATED RESOURCES

Contact Persons and Testing Schedules by State

Interpreter Events and Workshops

FEDERAL COURT INTERPRETERS

If you're interested in becoming a court interpreter in the **federal** courts, visit our website about the **Federal Court Interpreter Certification Examination** program.

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Online research services provided by

<http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/State-Interpreter-Certification.aspx>

Questions?

KEEP CALM

AND

CALL

Mayra Miranda
AKA “The Techie”