

What do court interpreters do?

Court interpreters make a difference in the lives of those they interpret for by removing language barriers and ensuring that justice is accessible to everyone. Qualified candidates with advanced language skills are needed to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency and those who are deaf or hard of hearing have effective access to our courts.

Can I make a career of interpreting?

Pennsylvania is the tenth most linguistically diverse state in the country. According to the US Labor Department interpreting is among the 10 fastest growing employment fields. Interpreters can do full or part-time freelance work for the courts, government or any other agencies. Compensation rates are \$30 to \$75 per hour, depending on qualifications.

What are the costs?

- State residents: between \$240-\$450
- Non-residents: between \$290-\$525

Costs vary depending on the language, which tests must be taken and whether tests have to be retaken

For more information

- web: <https://www.pacourts.us/judicial-administration/court-programs/interpreter-program>
- phone: 215-560-6300
- email: InterpreterProgram@pacourts.us
- To stay up-to-date on court interpreter news and activities, follow PA Courts on social media.

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AOPC

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS



Do you speak another language fluently?



Make a difference!



Become a certified court interpreter.



Why become an interpreter?

Court interpreters find their work satisfying for many reasons:

- Commitment to justice
- Love of languages
- Intellectual challenge
- Making a difference
- Public service contribution
- Career or supplemental income



What are certification requirements?

1. Program registration
2. Orientation workshop
3. Written examination
4. Oral-proficiency examination
5. Pass a background check
6. Abide by the Rules of Conduct for Judiciary Interpreters
7. Renew qualifications every two years
8. Be at least 18 years old and a legal U.S. resident

Am I qualified to interpret?

Interpreters must have the following:

- A native-like ability to speak and understand both English and another language. You must also know how to read and write in both.
- An ability to interpret everything in court without adding, deleting or changing anything.
- An ability to do three modes of interpretation: simultaneous, consecutive and sight.
- Ample vocabulary and world knowledge in a variety of fields and subjects – especially legal vocabulary.
- Knowledge of courtroom protocol and a basic understanding of the judicial system.

What languages are needed?

The most frequently requested languages are:



There is an increasing need for a variety of languages including **Bengali, Farsi, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Hindi, Karen, Khmer, Krio, Lao, Punjabi** and others.

Interpreters of every language are needed on a daily basis by the 60 judicial districts.