



Language and Communications Access

Interpretation Certification Research

Summary: Research on organizations that provide programs to become a certified interpreter.

College & University Programs

Article: [Translation vs. Interpretation: What's the difference?](#)

A certified interpreter refers to a professional linguist who converts speech from the source language into the target language. They are usually trained in medical, legal, and conference interpretation. These individuals' linguistic skills have been evaluated and verified by an accredited organization. Some colleges and universities that provide training in the interpretation field are the following:

National:

1. [Middlebury Institute of International Studies](#)
 - a. Provides M.As. in translation and interpretation with joint programs in several subjects such as finance, education, policy, etc.
 - b. Teaches students to correctly use interpretation technology
2. [University of Maryland](#)
 - a. A one-year graduate program
 - b. It concentrates on different fields such as intercultural communication, political, legal or medical
3. [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#)
 - a. A master's program in Translation and Interpreting
 - b. The program specializes in conference and community interpreting

Massachusetts:

1. [University of Massachusetts- Amherst](#)
 - a. A Massachusetts-based program that provides an online education platform to become certified as an interpreter.
 - b. A 15-credit certificate that can be completed in one year.
 - c. The academic coursework prepares students in different interpreting fields such as legal, mental health, educational, and medical.
2. [Boston University](#)



B

- a. A university program prepares students to interpret in a variety of settings such as legal, community, and medical.
 - b. Students receive a minimum of 156 hours of instruction in the course of 12 to 18 months.
 - c. The certificate concentrates on the practical fundamentals of interpreting. In addition to learning and practicing note-taking, performing memory and vocabulary-building exercises.
3. [MassBay Community College](#)
 - a. A 48-60 hour program that provides training in the medical and legal field.
 - b. The course prepares students for entry-level careers and helps expand their skills as interpreters.
 4. [Bunker Hill Community College](#)
 - a. This program will teach students the necessary skills and principles to become a professional interpreter.
 - b. A 40-hour self-paced course that will teach students how to transfer information in multicultural situations.
 - c. At the completion of this program, students will receive a certificate of completion.

ASL:

1. [Gallaudet University](#)
 - a. Ph.D. program in Translation and Interpreting Studies.
 - b. The school also offers an undergrad and a master's program in interpretation
2. [Northeastern University](#)
 - a. An undergraduate program that specializes in ASL-English interpreting
 - b. It provides the opportunity to do volunteer work, an internship, or a practicum
3. [University of Northern Colorado](#)
 - a. An online bachelor's in ASLEI
 - b. The opportunity to work with faculty across the US and the world
4. [University of Rochester](#)
 - a. A major and minor in ASL Interpreting
 - b. A program that prepares students in a wide variety of professions such as education, medicine, and law, among others
5. [Clemson University](#)
 - a. An undergraduate degree in ASL





- b. The program requires students to study abroad to immerse the students in ASL from other countries
- 6. [Liberty University](#)
 - a. A bachelor's degree in ASL
 - b. Gain a community partnership through the ASL club
 - c. Participate in practicum and internship in the program

These organizations prepare individuals to become skilled interpreters. While some provide a certificate of completion, others prepare individuals to test for specific national interpretation certifications. By being professionally certified, employers can validate and respect interpreters' abilities. It can also qualify interpreters to work in specialized fields; medical, legal, and educational, among others.

