

Why Choose CCHI Certification?

www.CCHICertification.org **What is CCHI Certification for Healthcare Interpreters?**

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The Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) has developed a national, valid, credible, and vendor-neutral certification program created by interpreters, for interpreters — and the public good. All stakeholders played major parts developing the certification — healthcare providers, interpreters and training providers. CCHI certification programs are available to all interpreters around the nation.

Significantly, CCHI is the first organization certifying interpreters to receive accreditation from the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). By earning the NCCA seal of approval, CCHI has demonstrated that our certification program meets the stringent standards set by the credentialing community.



What are the Two Kinds of CCHI Credentials?

There are two kinds of CCHI certification credentials available.

- **The Core Certification Healthcare Interpreter™ (CoreCHI™) certification is the basic starting place for all interpreters.** It tests candidates' core professional knowledge of medical terminology, cultural responsiveness and the ability to prepare for and manage an interpreted encounter, and interact with other healthcare professionals. It is not language-specific and is a written, multiple-choice exam.
- **The Certified Healthcare Interpreter™ (CHI™) certification provides a language-specific oral assessment of the interpreter's performance skills after candidates pass the CoreCHI™ exam.** It tests consecutive and simultaneous interpreting, sight translation and translation skills. It is currently available in three languages: Spanish, Arabic and Mandarin, with others under development.

Why is CCHI Certification Important for Healthcare Interpreters?

CCHI certification is setting the standard for the healthcare interpreting industry. The launch of our certification program in 2010 created the impetus for an increasing number of hospitals and healthcare organizations to choose certified interpreters as their preferred means of ensuring language access for their limited English proficient (LEP) patient population. We are committed to remaining responsive to the work and needs of healthcare interpreters.



The development and launch of the Interpreter Registry and Credential Renewal System in 2013 are funded by The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, Office of Minority Health.



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What is the CCHI Certification Process?

Examinations are computer-based and offered at testing centers throughout the United States. All applicants must take the written CoreCHI™ exam, administered year-around. CHI™ candidates who pass the CoreCHI™ exam will then receive information on how to schedule the CHI™ oral performance exam. It is offered only during certain testing “windows” each quarter. **Here are the details of the CCHI certification process.**

- 1 Review the CCHI Candidate’s Examination Handbook for information about applying for CCHI’s certification examinations.
- 2 Determine whether you are now eligible or will soon be eligible to take the exam. (You can review the prerequisites at: <http://www.cchicertification.org/44-certification/eligibility-criteria/90-eligibility-criteria>) Complete the CCHI Exam Application online (<https://cchi.learningbuilder.com>) and submit your application for review.
- 3 Within two hours of submitting your application, you will receive an email notification of receipt of your application.
- 4 Within two weeks after submission, you will be notified of eligibility and will receive instructions on how to schedule your examination and pay the relevant examination fees. You must take the CoreCHI™ exam within 6 months of the application approval.
- 5 Download and review the *Test Content Outline*.
- 6 If you wish, purchase and take the CoreCHI™ Practice Exam.
- 7 Take the written CoreCHI™ exam.
- 8 Receive your results. All interpreters who pass the exam, except Arabic, Mandarin and Spanish, will be awarded the CoreCHI™ certification. Arabic, Mandarin and Spanish interpreters must pay for and take an oral CHI™ exam within one year of passing the CoreCHI™ exam. Those who pass the CHI™ exam will be awarded a CHI™ certification.
- 9 You will receive an official CoreCHI™ or CHI™ certificate documenting your achievements within two weeks of test results. Create your Professional Profile in the online CCHI Interpreter Registry.



What is the Forecast for the Profession of Healthcare Interpreter?

The healthcare interpreting industry is expected to have consistent and robust growth for the foreseeable future.

U.S. News & World Report recently named interpreting as one of the “50 Best Careers of 2016” with expected strong growth over the next decade.

What is the CCHI Healthcare Interpreter Registry?

CCHI has created a registry of all CCHI-certified interpreters. Our aim is to make it easy for healthcare providers to find qualified interpreters, and for interpreters to market themselves to employers who need them.

Make sure to opt in to display your email address in the Registry. Contact us at info@cchicertification.org if you need help updating your CCHI profile.

What are the Benefits to Interpreters of Being Listed in the National Healthcare Interpreter Registry?

Becoming CCHI-certified and listed in the National Certified Healthcare Interpreter Registry has the following benefits:

- **Be seen, found, and known by healthcare organizations and language agencies who are looking for your skills.** Once listed in the Registry, healthcare organizations and language agencies have a way to easily find and engage you. They can search for a CoreCHI™ or CHI™ certified interpreter by city, state, language and credential type.
- **Maintain the value of your credential.** You have immediate access to each training course as soon as it becomes CCHI-accredited. No longer do you have to struggle and search for continuing education (CE) hours to maintain your knowledge and skills. **The CE Courses Registry is at <https://www.ceapcchi.org/FindAProvider>.**
- **Create your personal professional profile.** Once you are awarded the certification, you join the national Registry. In your profile, you can immediately record completed CE courses, required work experience and upload supporting documents, eliminating a last-minute rush at the time of your certification renewal.

Next Steps Be among the elite healthcare interpreters who have had their knowledge and skills certified.

- To learn how to become CCHI-certified, go to www.CCHICertification.org.
- If you are already certified, be sure that you are listed on the National Certified Healthcare Interpreter Registry at <https://cchi.learningbuilder.com/Public/MemberSearch/Search>.