



Winter 2024

CCHI News Digest

Welcome to our Winter 2024 issue of the **CCHI News Digest**, where you will find the latest **CCHI News**, **Top Headlines** from our social media posts, and **CCHI Community Happenings**. The highlight of late 2023 was CCHI's first **Skill Building Mini-Conference**, where over 800 participants from across the country (and the world!) gathered online to hone their interpretation abilities through performance-based learning. And we've got even bigger plans for 2024! Read on for more.

The CCHI Team

CCHI News



SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for April 5 and 6, 2024! CCHI is teaming up with **The University of Houston Downtown (UHD) Department of History, Humanities, and Languages** for two days of in-person educational enrichment and networking. On Friday, UHD takes center stage to host their first Symposium on Language and Health. **And on Saturday, April 6, CCHI hosts the 2nd National Certification Summit**, aptly titled "**Setting the Course for the Next 15**," to commemorate a decade and a half of national healthcare interpreter credentialing!

The call for presentations is currently open and closes on January 25, 2024. **You can fill out the Presentation Proposal Form here:** <https://forms.gle/kT6KHbbxqCRRcfzL7>. Selected presenters will be notified by February 14, 2024, and will receive a free full registration for the event they are chosen to be a part of.

Attendee registration for the Summit and the Symposium will open on February 1, 2024.



CCHI is happy to introduce a monthly live **Certification Q&A with CCHI Staff!** The first Certification Q+A is on **January 12 from 12:30 - 1:15pm ET**, so bring your burning questions and certification curiosities and speak with our staff in real time. Want to know more about:

- The application process?
- Eligibility requirements?
- Language proficiency documentation?
- Certification renewal?
- Continuing education?

Join us! This will be a live Zoom meeting with no registration required. **The link to the Zoom meeting will be posted to social media and our [webinars page](#) on the morning of January 12**, so be sure to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn or Instagram, and mark your calendar!

On November 15, 2023, CCHI's **language proficiency requirements for the Language Other Than English (LOTE)** took effect, per the [announcement](#) made earlier in the month. The new requirements are based on the results of the national "Language Proficiency for Interpreters (LPI)" survey conducted by CCHI in the fall of 2022. In this update, the Commissioners have more clearly defined the scope of accepted documentation verifying language proficiency in the LOTE. For more information, please visit <https://cchicertification.org/certifications/eligibility/linguistic-proficiency/>.

The CCHI Candidate's Examination Handbook has been updated to reflect these changes; see pages 18-20 and Appendix E.

CCHI has joined with more than 760 trade groups, professional organizations, businesses and employers on the **Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition**, which was established to advocate for the [Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act \(S. 722/H.R. 1477\)](#). CCHI joined the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition to help invest in our people, reinforce our commitment to professional development and advocate for a stronger workforce.

The bill would expand 529 savings plans to include costs to obtain and maintain skills training and postsecondary credentials, such as licenses and nongovernmental certifications. The Coalition's goal is to transform 529s from "college savings plans" to "career savings plans." To learn more about the Coalition and its membership, please visit <https://powerofassociations.org/tomorrows-workforce-coalition/>.

[DOCUMENT: The White House Releases First Ever U.S. Playbook to Address Social Determinants of Health \(SDOH\)](#)

[Denver Is Training Interpreters for Free to Facilitate Language Access for Immigrants and Refugees](#)

[Improving Language Access in the U.S. Asylum System](#)

[Understanding the U.S. Immigrant Experience: The 2023 KFF/LA Times Survey of Immigrants](#)

[VIDEO: Why Being Bilingual is Good for Your Brain](#)

[Jacqueline Ortiz Honored for Increasing Patient Access to Interpreter Services](#)

CCHI Community Happenings

The **National Interpreter Trainers (NIT) Huddle** kicked off this fall! The NIT Huddle is a forum, facilitated by CCHI, in which **interpreter trainers and educators** can interact with each other, discuss innovations and challenges, and share best practices for developing training programs that meet the ever-evolving role of the healthcare interpreter. Meetings are quarterly via Zoom, and more information can be found [here](#).

If you missed the first one, don't worry: the Commissioners' presentation on the **"Anatomy of Performance-Based Training"** is available to all on our [YouTube page!](#)

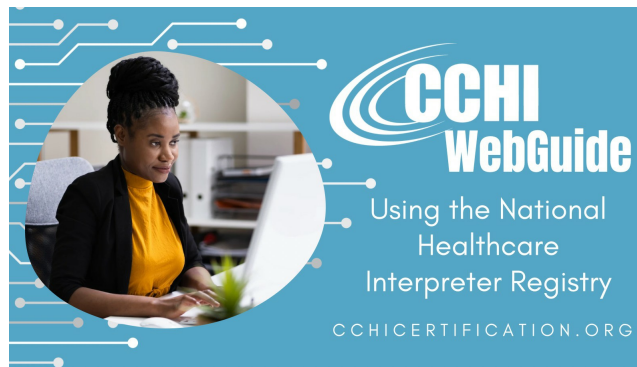
Interpreter services managers, don't forget: The [National Language Access Leadership Huddle](#) is also ongoing!

CCHI Community Conversations



CCHI Commissioners Johanna Parker, Fabio Torres, and Mateo Rutherford shared their perspective on performance-based training for interpreters and trainers alike in this Community Conversation. The recording is now available on [YouTube!](#)

CCHI WebGuides



In November, CCHI launched the **WebGuides** series of instructional videos for navigating our various online resources. The first two installments focus on the National Healthcare Interpreter Registry and our certification renewal information web pages. Check out the WebGuides playlist [here](#)!

Interpreting Industry Conferences

As always, you can visit our [Conferences page](#) for more information about upcoming conferences and CE credits.



CCHI's **Skill Building Mini Conference "Practice Makes Competent"** on November 18, 2023, brought together over 800 attendees from all over the country and WORLD! We are truly awed by the remarkable commitment to performance-based continuing education among so many language access professionals in the CCHI network.

Why is performance-based continuing education crucial for an interpreter? CCHI Chair Vonessa Costa offered her take in her [keynote address](#), which is now available for viewing on YouTube.

Many thanks to all who attended, to our fantastic presenters, and of course, to our generous [sponsors](#), without whom this unprecedented event would not have been possible.



At the **ATA 64th Annual Conference** in October 2023, we got to hang out with fellow commissioners, rub elbows with other passionate language access advocates, meet existing and soon-to-be certified healthcare interpreters, and learn from colleagues and experts! We can't wait for the many opportunities this year will bring to network with the amazing interpretation community across the country.

Complete the Perception Survey on Automated Interpreting **TODAY!**



The [Interpreting SAFE-AI Task Force](#) needs your help in getting the **artificial intelligence opinion survey** out to consumers of our interpreting services - individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Because they will be directly impacted by the use of AI for communication in healthcare, legal, educational, and social settings, we need their input! The Task Force has translated the survey into these languages: Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Korean, Russian, Portuguese (European).

We encourage you to:

- Personally invite **3 end users in your community** (maybe even family members) who have experience communicating through a human interpreter or machine interpretation application. **To clarify, we are not asking you to give the survey directly to people for whom you interpret, as that would be overstepping the interpreter's role.** We ask you to be advocates for your language and ethnic communities, and

reach out to them.

- Please sit down with them to fill out the survey together, or provide them with **this link**: <https://safeaitf.org/perception-survey-end-users>

Don't forget about the English-speaking providers who are also end users of interpreting services! Here is the survey link for them:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SAFE-AI_Enduser_English

To allow more time to collect end-user feedback, we are extending the survey closing date to **January 12, 2024**.

Thank you in advance for your support!

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