

Oregon Judicial Department

2012 National Summit
on Language Access Report



Pay it Forward with Mentoring– Registered Credential

Court Interpreter Services regularly matches up Oregon Certified Court interpreters with aspiring interpreters in a mentoring program. This supports professional development opportunities, and raises the bar of all court interpreters in Oregon Circuit Courts. In 2011, we mentored 111 interpreters for a total of 255 hours!

On a practical level, we are seeing the fruits of our mentoring activities. Many interpreters who have been mentored are now pursuing an OJD professional credential. In 2011, fourteen interpreters completed the Registered Credential by receiving at least five hours of mentoring in addition to other requirements.

Mentoring and recruitment of new interpreters of all languages go hand in hand. Court Interpreter Services still actively recruits new interpreters. Spending time with aspiring interpreters also allows us to track the professional retention of interpreters and recruits. We better understand where recruits can get lost along the way and how to help

The Chief Justice administers the Interpreter Oath to new interpreters.

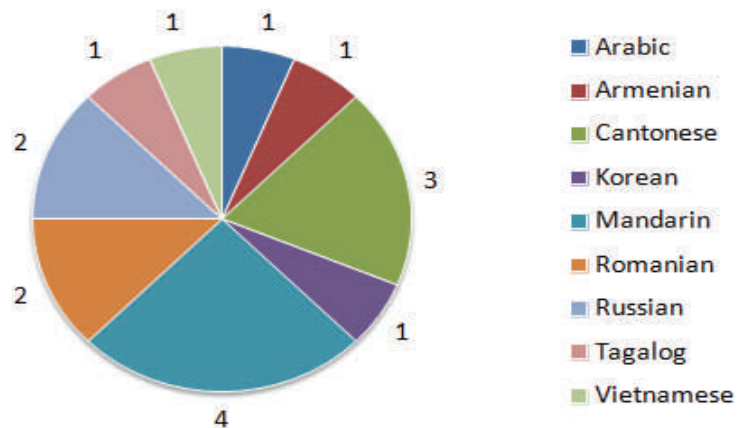


them.

In 2011, the Oregon Registered Credential moved out of the pilot phase, and 14 individuals were sworn in as new registered interpreters. Those 14 interpreters

represented a diverse offering of languages including Arabic, Armenian, Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin, Romanian, Russian, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

**Interpreters Registered* by Language
2011**



*Some Interpreters are Registered in more than one language. Values move clockwise around the pie chart.

Oregon Continuing Education Requirements

Interpreters are responsible to keep abreast of local, regional, and nationwide continuing education events in order to meet the requirements of the Code of Professional Responsibility for Interpreters in the Oregon Courts and credential renewal requirements.

Continuing education activities must meet the following *three* criteria:

1. The subject matter is relevant to court interpreting, the work of the courts, or the judicial branch; **and**
2. The education is at least 50 minutes in length: **and**
3. Anticipated learning outcomes are identified before the educational activity.

Continuing education activities must also meet *at least two* of the following five criteria:

1. The learning environment is educationally sound and conducive to learning the subject matter; or
2. The participant receives or has access to all the reference tools and other materials and resources; or
3. The participant has an opportunity to practice using or applying the new information or skill; or
4. The participant has the opportunity to interact with knowledgeable faculty or other experts to pose questions or clarify understanding; or
5. An assessment tool or activity enables the participant to determine whether the skills, abilities, or knowledge gained through the education can be used in the future.

Independent Study

For purposes of granting continuing education units, independent study activities refer to non-instructor-led educational activities that meet the above criteria. Independent study may be language specific for interpreters who, due to extenuating circumstances, are unable to participate in other continuing-education events

Oregon SCA Policies for Certified Interpreter Program— Revised in 2011

DEFINITIONS

Continuing Education: A specific activity offered after becoming certified or registered that enhances the individual's ability to perform services as an interpreter, is relevant to the work of the courts, and meets established criteria. It fulfills continuing professional development requirements under Canon 11 of the Code of Professional Responsibility for Interpreters in the Oregon Courts.

Continuing Education Units: Credits awarded for hours for participation in approved educational activities to meet the requirements of the Code of Professional Responsibility for Interpreters in the Oregon Courts and for credential renewal processes.

Education: A specific activity that enhances and individual's knowledge, skills and abilities and meets established criteria.

Ethics Specific CE: Educational activities related to appropriate court interpreter ethics or court interpreter protocol based on the Code of Professional Responsibility in the Oregon Courts.

General Education CEs: An educational activity that meets criteria demonstrating the development in interpreting skills, knowledge and abilities. The educational activity must be on topics related to criminal and civil justice systems to meet credential renewal requirements.

Independent Study: A pre-approved non-instructor-led, language-specific educational activity that meets criteria demonstrating the development of interpreting knowledge, skills and abilities to meet credential renewal requirements.

Language Specific CEs: An educational activity which is presented in the language specific to the credential that meets criteria demonstrating the development of interpreting knowledge, skills and abilities. The activity must also be presented on topics related to the civil and criminal justice system.

Continuing Education in 2011

Court Interpreter Services offered 76.5 continuing education credits and over 93.5 hours for 382 Interpreters.

Interpreters from nine different states and speakers of 31 languages attended events in Oregon in 2011.

Language Specific Training—CIS facilitated four Spanish language-specific training events and one Russian language-specific training in 2011.

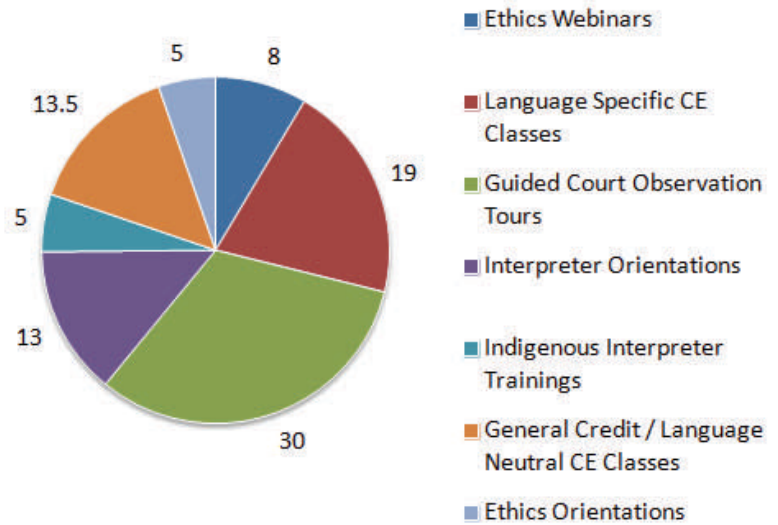
An annual event with the Oregon Law Center trained interpreters of indigenous American languages.

Guided Court Observation Tours—Court Interpreter Services led ten, three-hour observation tours of the Multnomah County Courthouse for prospective interpreters of any language. This year 48 interpreters of 15 languages participated in these tours led by CIS staff.

Language Neutral Training— A series of three workshops about interpreting at trial were offered by OJD faculty and targeted intermediate and advanced court interpreters. The Honorable Darleen Ortega of the Oregon Court of Appeals also led a town-hall continuing education event to discuss the Oregon appeals process.

New Interpreter Orientations— Court Interpreter Services offered three orientations for interpreters in 2011. Fifty-one beginners to the court interpreting process completed part one of orientation, and eight completed a secondary orientation focused on the Code for Professional Responsibility in the Oregon.

Education and Training Hours 2011



Values move clockwise around the pie chart.

Ethics Webinars— CIS offered five ethics webinars for interpreters in nine different states representing 21 different languages. Three presenters joined us from out of state this year to give another perspective on ethical dilemmas and the Code of Professional Responsibility.



Max Christian and Ed Alletto discuss interpreter ethics during a webinar.

Oregon Continuing Education Requirements

Spoken Languages Certified Renewal

25 total approved CEUs during the credential renewal period as follows:

- a. 5 ethics-specific units
- b. 10 general units
- c. 10 language-specific units

Certified ASL Renewal

A. Verification of a valid Registry of Interpreters for the RID Specialist Certificate: Legal (SC:L) and

B. 5 ethics-specific units

Registered Interpreter Renewal

Completion of ten (10) total approved CEUs

At least five of the ten hours must be ethic-specific units.

Additional Training & Presentations Provided

- January – “How to Work with Interpreters” - University of Oregon Law School
- February – Yamhill County New Court Mediators Training
- February – Indigenous Interpreter Training
- March – New Judges - “Working with Interpreters”- Marion County
- March – OJD’s “Take Your Child to Work Day,” explained what interpreters do, and helped kids try an interpreting exercise
- April – “Working with Interpreters” - Klamath Falls court staff
- April – Panel for students at Century High School
- April – Presentation to Evergreen High School (ASL interpreting students)
- May – Guest panel for Western Oregon University interpreting students
- May – Job Shadow day with McNary High School students
- June – New Judge’s Seminar - “Working with Interpreters”
- September – Job Shadow day with an Italian student - Multnomah County Courts
- October–November – Portland Community College interpreting student mentoring

Special thanks to Michaele Bienvenu, and all the CIS Staff!

