



Language Line® University Court Certification Test Questions and Answers

What is the nature and structure of the Court Certification Test?

The Court Certification Test is an oral consecutive interpreting exam, administered over the phone, using a format that consists of a series of dialogues between two or more parties. The dialogues reflect typical court proceedings that are likely to be interpreted.

What is the purpose of the Court Certification Test?

The purpose of the test is to identify individuals who have sufficient knowledge of court terminology and protocols to provide quality consecutive interpreting for specific court scenarios, and to certify their competence through a testing program.

What does the test measure?

The test measures the interpreter's knowledge of legal terminology, as well as the ability to interpret accurately and professionally in a court setting, thus meeting the standards for competence in consecutive court interpreting.

What languages are available for Court Certification Testing?

Language Line University Court Certification Testing is offered in 15 languages:

- Arabic
- Cantonese
- French
- Haitian Creole
- Hmong
- Japanese
- Khmer
- Korean
- Mandarin
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese

What experience in testing and interpreting do the members of the Court Certification Test Design Team have?

The team members include: a former court administrator with experience in designing and implementing a state certification test, interpreters with Federal and State certifications, raters of Consortium court interpreting certification exams, an author of numerous highly-regarded interpreting publications, interpreters and examiners with experience designing and administering state certification tests, individuals with design and administration experience, and a former examiner for Human Resources with advanced training in Testing and Evaluation.

How is the test scored?

The test is scored using an objective method, known as the *scoring unit method*. When a candidate's score is in the borderline range between passing and failing, a subjective score is also calculated.

What scores are considered passing and failing?

All scores of 71% and above are automatically considered to be passing. All scores of 67% and below are automatically considered to be failing. Scores of 68-70% are considered to fall within the critical, or borderline, range, and the subjective score is then taken into account. Additionally, scores falling within this range are re-scored to ensure accurate test results.



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How is the test administered?

The test is administered and rated by a member of the panel of trained Examiners/Raters. There is only one Examiner and one candidate per testing session, which means that the Examiner will be reading the parts of both the English and non-English speakers in the scenario. The Examiner will call the candidate at the scheduled test date/time to administer the test and, after a brief introduction, will read the dialogue; after each utterance is read, the candidate will interpret it into the target language. The entire test will be recorded for evaluation and record-keeping purposes.

When and how are the test results received?

Your Test Results Report is emailed within 3-5 days after the conclusion of the test. A Certificate of Competency in Court Interpreting is mailed to candidates who receive a passing score. The score sheet and the recording of the test are confidential, however, and cannot be released to the candidate.

How soon can the test be re-taken if the candidate does not receive a passing score?

Any candidate who does not pass the test can re-take the test at any time, but is advised to allow sufficient time to pass before re-testing to devote time to improving his/her skills in the areas identified on the Test Results Report.

Can candidates who pass the test, then say that they are “Court Certified”?

Candidates who pass the test can respond by saying that they are certified by Language Line Services as competent to interpret court proceedings. The Court Certification Test also meets the standard for court certification licensing by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

What guarantee of confidentiality do I have?

All of our personnel are bound by a strict Code of Ethics, as well as confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements. These ensure that all information pertaining to the work we do for you remains strictly confidential.

More Questions?

Contact your Customer Service Representative or Language Line University toll-free at 1 877 351-6636 or email us at LLU@languageline.com.