

Queensland Preparing Interpreters (QPI) Scholarship

Selection Criteria to obtain Certified Provisional Interpreter (CPI) or Recognised Provisional Interpreter (RPI) Qualification for Languages in Demand

AUSIT & NAATI invite interested members to apply for one of twenty scholarships to participate in a 10-week Interpreting Skills for NAATI Certification Training Online Course with TAFE SA or RMIT for intake in September 2020. Upon completion of the Online Course and receiving a pass grade, applicants will be required to sit the NAATI Certified Practising Interpreter (CPI) test or apply for Recognition.

The purpose of this scholarship program is to upskill and train uncertified interpreters to better meet the demand for interpreter services for in-demand languages in the State of Queensland.

The twenty successful applicants will receive a scholarship to undertake the NAATI Certification Training Online Course with TAFE SA or RMIT. Upon passing the course, the applicant will also be eligible to have their NAATI test/Recognition fees covered.

The following selection criteria must be met to be eligible for the scholarship:

- Speak one of the following languages in demand:
Arabic, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Korean, Somali, Kiswahili, Farsi, Kurdish, Burmese, Dari, Karen, Nepali, Persian, Thai, Hazaragi, Punjabi.
**If the language you speak isn't on the below list but you believe it to be a "language in demand", you may submit a statement attesting to why you believe your language is in demand.
- Be currently working as an interpreter or have experience as an interpreter;
- Not hold NAATI accreditation/certification/recognition as an interpreter;
- Meet English language proficiency requirements before enrolment. *Please refer to the last page of these criteria for more information on the English language proficiency requirements;
- Be a current AUSIT member;
- After completing and passing the online course, sit a NAATI test or apply for Recognition:

For Certified Provisional Interpreter (CPI) Scholarships:

Agree to sit the NAATI exam within six months of the course end date. Exemptions will only be made for languages in which NAATI tests are not scheduled within the six-month period after the course ends.

For Recognized Provisional Interpreter (RPI) Scholarships:

Provide two referees who can attest to your language ability. Applications for a RPI qualification must meet NAATI's Work Practice Requirements at

<https://www.naati.com.au/certification/recognised-practising/work-practice-requirements/>

- Agree that you must pass the online course tests to be eligible to sit the NAATI exam or apply for recognition;
- Agree to the payment and reimbursement conditions as follows:
 - Successful applicants must pay 50% of the course fee upfront (\$675). Payment is due by 6th July, payable to AUSIT.
 - In order to be reimbursed for this payment, you must pass the online course test;
 - It may take up to four weeks to process your payment after the reimbursement form and evidence are received;
 - For those candidates who pass the online course, the subsequent cost of the NAATI Certification Test/NAATI Recognition will be paid by the scholarship fund.
- Have sufficient computer skills and Internet connectivity to complete and upload assessments, and engage in online training. Candidates will be expected to be able to film and upload audio and video assignments;
- Agree to write a short article after course completion to be used for AUSIT purposes in social media, newsletters, and/or other platforms;
- Be an Australian citizen or Permanent Resident (If you hold PR – you must provide proof of your status);
- Reside in the State of Queensland (you must provide proof of your Queensland address).

How do I know whether to apply for a Certified Provisional Interpreter Scholarship or a Recognized Provisional Interpreter Scholarship?

Whether or not you are eligible for NAATI Certification (Certified Provisional Interpreter- CPI) or Recognition (Recognised Provisional Interpreter – RI) depends on whether NAATI currently offers testing in your language.

To determine whether the language you speak is currently available for NAATI testing or whether your language is only available for Recognition, click on this link:

<https://www.naati.com.au/certification/eligibilitywizard>

To apply you must provide:

- A recommendation letter from your employer or colleague (must be an AUSIT member and an interpreter);
- CV (no more than two pages) as an attachment in Microsoft Word or PDF formats only;
- Proof of English Language Proficiency (Please refer to the last page for additional information);
- Proof of Permanent Residence or Australian Citizenship (certified copy of Australian passport, citizenship document or IMMICARD);
- Proof of residency status in Queensland (certified copy of correspondence to your address)
- A written statement explaining why you believe your language is in demand (if the language you speak isn't listed as one of the in-demand languages).

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- AUSIT membership (all types);
- CV;
- Letter of explanation addressing the demand for your language pair (if applicable);
- Demonstrated experience or demonstrated willingness in working as a professional interpreter;
- Meeting the English language proficiency requirement;
- QLD residency status;
- Reference Letters.

The deadline for submitting requests is 23:59 AEST May 31st, 2020. Late submissions will not be considered.

Applications are to be made via the link provided in the E-flash announcement.

*****TO ACCESS THE FORMS, YOU WILL NEED TO BE LOGGED INTO A GOOGLE ACCOUNT. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A GOOGLE ACCOUNT, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE ONE TO ACCESS THE FORMS.**

Any questions related to the Scholarship Project can be made in writing to:
qldinterpreterscholarships@gmail.com

Short-listed applicants will be required to undergo an interview with an AUSIT representative.

The twenty scholarship recipients will be notified by June 30th, 2020.

The course start date is Monday 14th September, ending on Friday 27th November 2020.

More information about TAFE SA/RMIT NAATI Certification Training Course can be viewed at
https://www.tafesa.edu.au/xml/course/sc/sc_T755808485.aspx

How to meet English Proficiency Requirements:

This is a pre-requisite set by NAATI to ensure all participants have the required level of English to complete the course and meet NAATI English requirements. There are different pathways to meet the English requirement, including:

- Pathway 1: Completion of a formal English proficiency test. This could include IELTS, OET, PTE, TOEFL iBT, CAE, CPE or ISLPR.
- Pathway 2: Completion of a tertiary qualification (degree level or higher) where:
 - The language of instruction was English; and
 - English proficiency, comparable or greater than NAATI's requirements, is an entry requirement for this qualification.
- Pathway 3: If they are a native English speaker, they will need to provide evidence of either:
 - Completing your primary and secondary education (equivalent to Australian secondary education year 12) at an institution/s where English was the primary language of instruction; or

- Completing your secondary (equivalent to Australian secondary education year 12) and tertiary education at an institution/s where English was the primary language of instruction.
- Pathway 4: If they don't have any of the test results/evidence mentioned above. TAFE SA/RMIT can arrange for them to complete a Versant English Placement test at no cost. Applicants need to achieve the required levels that are equivalent to the tests in pathway 1. i.e. Speaking (51) and Listening (51)

More information about the English proficiency requirement can be found here:
<https://www.naati.com.au/certification/certification-prerequisites/english-proficiency/>