

Video 3: The Bilingual Oral Interpreting Exam – What to Expect on Test Day

In the first two videos, you learned about the Oral Proficiency Exams and the English-Only Written Exam, which you will need to take and pass before taking the Bilingual Oral Interpreting Exam. The California Court Interpreters Program requires that candidates pass *all* of these exams to become certified as a California court interpreter.

The Bilingual Oral Interpreting Exam measures interpreting skills in consecutive interpretation, sight translation, and simultaneous interpretation.

There are several languages that require certification status. For a complete list of these languages and the exams that are available, please visit the website you see here:

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-interpreters.htm>

Before taking the exam, you'll need to schedule and pay for it by phone.

On the day of your test, don't forget to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the test, and have a valid ID with you.

You can see a full list of items you cannot bring into the testing center at the California Court Interpreters Program website or Prometric's website.

www.courts.ca.gov/programs-interpreters.htm

www.prometric.com/california

On test day, here's what you can expect:

A proctor will administer the exam to you in a private room within the test center.

For the sight translation portions of the test, you'll have six minutes to review and orally translate a document written in English into your chosen foreign language. Then you'll have an additional six minutes to review and orally translate a document written in that foreign language into English.

During the Consecutive Interpretation portion of the test, you'll need to interpret material from English to your chosen foreign language, as well as from that foreign language to English.

Finally, during the simultaneous portion of the test, you'll use a headset to listen to instructions and text. This portion is approximately 7 minutes long. You'll be able to adjust the volume on your headset, but you won't be able to stop the recording during the test.

In order to pass the exam, you'll need to achieve a score of 70 percent or higher on **each part** of the exam.

You'll receive your score report in 60 to 90 days. You can take the bilingual oral interpreting exam a total of four times in any given language. If you don't pass after four attempts, you'll have to take and pass the three prerequisite screening exams.

The steps outlined in these videos cover the process for becoming a court interpreter in the State of California. If you have questions or need more information, just visit one of the websites located on the screen:

www.prometric.com/california

www.courts.ca.gov/programs-interpreter.htm

Have a great test day!