

## ADDENDUM TO THE RECOMMENDED NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR WORKING WITH INTERPRETERS IN COURTS AND TRIBUNALS

### National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) Certification Model

#### NAATI'S CERTIFICATION MODEL

In 2018, the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) reviewed their credential scheme and replaced it with a certification model which provides greater consistency in assessments and improved validity in the relationship between NAATI standards and the professional roles to which they relate.

NAATI's certification system is designed to evaluate whether an individual is competent to practice as a translator or interpreter. It does this by setting minimum standards of performance across a number of areas of competency. Certification is an acknowledgement that an individual has demonstrated the ability to meet the professional standards required by the translation and interpreting industry in Australia.

The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) certifies interpreters at a number of levels, according to their proficiency and skill.

The current NAATI certification model (effective January 2018) specifies the following relevant levels<sup>1</sup>:

- Certified Conference Interpreter
- Certified Specialist Interpreter – Legal<sup>2</sup>;
- Certified Interpreter;
- Certified Provisional Interpreter; and
- Recognised Practising Interpreter (not certified).

#### PREVIOUS NAATI CREDENTIALS

While NAATI certification is preferred, there are some interpreters who are yet to transition to the certification scheme. Previous NAATI credentials (accreditation or recognition) are still valid and remain so until they expire.

When implementing the 2017 *Recommended National Standards for Working with Interpreters in Courts and Tribunals*, please refer to the table below as a quick reference table of equivalencies between the previous NAATI credentials and the current NAATI certification model.

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<sup>1</sup> The interpreter's certification can be verified by checking the interpreter's 'NAATI number' at [www.naati.com.au/online](http://www.naati.com.au/online)

<sup>2</sup> Certified Specialist Interpreter – Legal will become available from mid-2019

Previous NAATI credentials	Current NAATI certification model	Suitability
Senior Conference Interpreter	Certified Conference Interpreter	Suitable for international or highly complex, specialised contexts involving conference type settings that require consecutive or simultaneous interpreting.  <i>Please note, the use of conference interpreting booths and equipment are often required by the interpreter to deliver such interpreting services.</i>
Conference Interpreter		
	Certified Specialist Interpreter (Health and Legal)	This certification type has no equivalent under the old system. The specialisation tests will become available from mid-2019.  These credentials are suitable for high level technical interpreting tasks in complex, specialised health or legal contexts.
Professional Interpreter	Certified Interpreter	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- working in a broad range of complex but non-specialised contexts, in domains including legal, health, education, police and other contexts supporting access to general public services</li> <li>- formal proceedings (such as courts, tribunals and other formal settings including commerce)</li> <li>- covering dialogue interpreting, monologue consecutive interpreting, chuchotage and sight translation</li> </ul>
Paraprofessional Interpreter	Certified Provisional Interpreter	Suitable for general conversations and interpreting in a broad range of non-complex, non-specialised contexts, and for covering dialogue interpreting.
Recognition	Recognised Practising Interpreter	Granted in emerging languages or languages with low community demand for which NAATI does not offer certification. Interpreters with this credential have recent and regular experience working as an interpreter and are required to complete regular professional development.  In the absence of interpreter certification for a language, Recognised Practising Interpreters may be asked to interpret in the same types of situations as Certified Interpreters.