



CALD Group promotes and endorses professional accreditation and standards established by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

## NAATI ACCREDITATION

National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters

### Why is NAATI Accreditation important in Australia?

The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters Ltd (NAATI) is the body responsible for setting and monitoring the standards for the translating and interpreting profession in Australia. It does this through its system of accreditation.

NAATI accreditation is the only credential officially accepted by employers for the profession of translation and interpreting in Australia.

#### NAATI Accreditation

NAATI Accreditation may be obtained in five ways:

- Passing a NAATI accreditation test
- Successful completion of a course of studies in translation and/or interpreting at an Australian institution as approved by NAATI
- Providing evidence of a specialised tertiary qualifications in translation and/or interpreting obtained from an educational institution overseas
- Providing evidence of a membership of a recognised international translating and/or interpreting professional association
- Providing evidence of advanced standing in translating or interpreting.

## Levels of Accreditation (Interpreting)

### **Paraprofessional Interpreter (PPI) (formerly known as level 2)**

This represents a level of competence in interpreting for the purpose of general conversations. Paraprofessional Interpreters generally undertake the interpretation of non-specialist dialogues. Practitioners at this level are encouraged to proceed to the professional levels of accreditation.

### **Professional Interpreter (PI) (formerly known as level 3)**

This is the first professional level and represents the minimum level of competence for professional interpreting. Interpreters convey the full meaning of the information from the source language into the target language in the appropriate style and register. Interpreters at this level are capable of interpreting across a wide range of subjects involving dialogues at specialist consultations. They are also capable of interpreting presentations by the consecutive mode. Their specialisations may include banking, law, health, and social and community services.

### **Conference Interpreter (CI) (formerly known as level 4)**

This is the advanced professional level and represents the competence to handle complex, technical and sophisticated interpreting. Conference Interpreters practise both consecutive and simultaneous interpreting in diverse situations, including at conferences, high-level negotiations, and court proceedings. Conference Interpreters operate at levels compatible with recognised international standards, and may choose to specialise in certain areas.

### **Conference Interpreter (Senior) (CIS) (formerly known as level 5)**

This is the highest level of NAATI accreditation and reflects both competence and experience. Conference Interpreters (Senior) are Conference Interpreters with a level of excellence in their field, recognised through demonstrated extensive experience and leadership.

## **RECOGNITION**

Recognition is an award in a totally separate category from accreditation. It is granted only in languages for which NAATI does not test and it has no specification of level of proficiency. Status: Recognition does not have equal status to accreditation, because NAATI has not had the opportunity to testify by formal assessment to a particular standard of performance. It is, in fact, intended to be an acknowledgment that, at the time of the award, the candidate has had recent and regular experience as a translator and/or interpreter, but no level of proficiency is specified. After 30 September 2006 it will also acknowledge that the Recognised person has reasonable proficiency in English and has completed basic preparation training.

## Levels of Accreditation (Translating)

### **Paraprofessional Translator (PPT) (formerly known as level 2)**

This represents a level of competence in translation for the purpose of producing a translated version of non-specialised information. Practitioners at this level are encouraged to proceed to the professional levels of accreditation.

### **Professional Translator (PT) (formerly known as level 3)**

This is the first professional level and represents the minimum level of competence for professional translating. Translators convey the full meaning of the information from the source language into the target language in the appropriate style and register. Translators at this level work across a wide range of subjects involving documents with specialised content. Translators may choose to specialise. They are qualified to translate into one language only or into both languages, depending upon their accreditation.

### **Advanced Translator (AT) (formerly known as level 4)**

This is the advanced professional level and represents the competence to handle complex, technical and sophisticated translation. Advanced Translators handle complex, technical and sophisticated material, compatible with recognised international standards. They may choose to specialise in certain areas. Advanced translators are accredited to translate either into one language only or into both languages, depending upon their accreditation.

### **Advanced Translator (Senior) (ATS) (formerly known as level 5)**

This is the highest level of NAATI accreditation and reflects both competence and experience. Advanced Translators (Senior) are Advanced Translators with a level of excellence in their field, recognised through demonstrated extensive experience and leadership.

## **RECOGNITION**

Recognition is an award in a totally separate category from accreditation. It is granted only in languages for which NAATI does not test and it has no specification of level of proficiency. Status: Recognition does not have equal status to accreditation, because NAATI has not had the opportunity to testify by formal assessment to a particular standard of performance. It is, in fact, intended to be an acknowledgment that, at the time of the award, the candidate has had recent and regular experience as a translator and/or interpreter, but no level of proficiency is specified. After 30 September 2006 it will also acknowledge that the Recognised person has reasonable proficiency in English and has completed basic preparation training.

## Competence level

Standards	Meaning	Related Tasks
<p><b>Language Aide</b></p> <p>For Government Employees only, to determine eligibility for language allowances</p>	<p>This is an elementary level of language use; it is NOT a translator and/or interpreter category. It is appropriate for persons who are required to use a minimal knowledge of a language for the purpose of simple communications. It is the required level for the first range of the Community Language Allowance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counter work: Answering general inquiries, usually in the language other than English</li> <li>• Assisting clients to complete a simple form in English</li> <li>• Assisting speakers of languages other than English by giving instructions or directions in the language other than English (LOTE)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Paraprofessional Interpreter</b></p>	<p>This represents a level of competence in interpreting for the purpose of general conversations, generally in the form of non-specialist dialogues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreting in general conversations</li> <li>• Interpreting in situations where specialised terminology or more sophisticated conceptual information is not required</li> <li>• Interpreting in situations where a depth of linguistic ability is not required</li> </ul>
<p><b>Professional Interpreter</b></p>	<p>This represents the minimum level of competence for professional interpreting. It may be regarded as the Australian professional standard. Interpreters are capable of interpreting across a wide range of subjects involving dialogues at specialist consultations. They are also capable of interpreting presentations by the consecutive mode.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpreting in both language directions for a wide range of subject areas usually involving specialist consultations with other professionals, e.g. doctor/patient, solicitor/client, bank manager/client, court interpreting</li> <li>• Interpreting in situations where a depth of linguistic ability in both languages is necessary</li> </ul>