

Medical Interpretation: Spanish Certificate Program

Academic Plan as of spring 2025

Program Description:

The Medical Interpretation: Spanish certificate program is designed to prepare students to become certified medical interpreters so they can pursue careers in medical interpretation and translation. The classes in the Medical Interpretation: Spanish certificate program focus on the development of applied learning in a cohesive program that prepares bilingual speakers to work as medical interpreters. Emphasis is placed on understanding the problems and complexities of interpretation and the roles and responsibilities of a medical interpreter, use of pertinent medical terminology and its context, and the development of interpretation skills.

Program Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the Medical Interpretation: Spanish Certificate Program, students will be able to:

- Identify and discuss the process of translation and interpretation and differentiate between the roles of the interpreter/translator.
- Understand the problems and complexities of interpretation and the roles and responsibilities of a medical interpreter.
- Identify interpretation-related skills necessary in a medical setting.
- Identify, understand and use pertinent terminology representative of medical interpreting.
- Identify problems and apply problem-solving strategies necessary in a medical setting as a medical interpreter.
- Demonstrate awareness of the diverse cultural factors and linguistic sensitivity in medical interpreting.

Prerequisites and Admissions Requirements:

Students must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED. Students must be fluent in Spanish and English and must provide proof of proficiency in both languages. Acceptable documentation is listed on our website to verify proficiency. If you do not have documents from the list(s) to demonstrate proficiency, students can take the Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIC) placement exam through Language Testing International. More information can be found on our website. Once documents are accepted, students will be added to the application course (LA9999D) so registration can occur.

Program Requirements:

To earn the Medical Interpretation: Spanish Certificate you must successfully complete the 4 required courses for a total of 72.0 contact hours (6.0 CEUs).

Required Courses:

- Introduction to Medical Interpreting (LA1171)
- Medical Terminology & Specialties I (LA1172)
- Medical Terminology & Specialties II (LA1173)
- Medical Interpreting Skills Development (LA1157)