



National Register of  
Public Service Interpreters

## QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE CRITERIA FOR ENTRY ONTO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE INTERPRETERS

The professional interpreter needs to meet a number of criteria to be accepted onto the National Register. This document describes the qualification **and** Public Service Interpreting (PSI) experience requirements (both are essential to meet the requirements of each Status below).  
Each language to be registered needs to meet the criteria.

NRPSI STATUS	QUALIFICATIONS ACCEPTED	EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
<p><b>FULL STATUS</b></p>	<p>You must provide evidence of having passed a recent qualification that meets the requirements of the <a href="#">National Occupational Standards</a> for Interpreting. Such qualifications will be at QCF Level 6 or higher, and will have examined your skills in interpreting (both consecutive and simultaneous), translation and sight translation.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Qualifications and Courses</a> section of the NRPSI website indicates which <b>UK qualifications</b> have met the educational criteria for registration with NRPSI.</p> <p>Other qualifications may also meet our criteria, but you will need to provide further details (by completing our <a href="#">Qualifications Assessment form</a> and including with your application) so that we can assess whether we can accept the qualification.</p> <p>For <b>overseas qualifications</b>, we will need to assess whether the qualification covers the material specified in the National Occupational Standards. If the documents relating to the qualification are written in a language other than English, we will require a certified translation.</p>	<p>More than 400 hours of proven PSI experience undertaken in the UK</p>
<p><b>INTERIM STATUS</b> The Interim Statuses are designed to help (a) interpreters near the beginning of their careers reach Full Status in a planned way, or (b) experienced interpreters working towards obtaining the necessary qualification.</p>	<p><b>Interim (a) Status:</b> Qualification requirements as for Full Status above</p> <p><b>Interim (b) Status:</b> Partial completion of a qualification that meets the requirements specified for Full Status above. The parts completed (and examined) must include at least one relating to interpreting (not sight translation) and one relating to translation, weighting to be similar to the interpreting and translation modules of the DPSI/DPI.</p>	<p>No minimum hours</p> <p>400 hours of proven PSI experience undertaken in the UK</p>

<b>RARE LANGUAGE STATUS</b>	<p>The Rare Language Status is for those languages for which there is no PSI qualification available in the UK, however there is a demand for the language from the public services. If the language is not currently listed on the National Register then NRPSI's decision on whether the language can be listed will be final. You must provide acceptable evidence that you can speak the language to an appropriate standard.</p> <p>Standard of English: You must provide evidence of having passed a qualification that tests spoken and written English equivalent to IELTS band score 7.0 or above (CEFR C1). Qualifications that test this include the Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE), Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE) and IELTS.</p> <p>If you are already on the National Register for a different language at Full Status or Interim (a), you will have met the required standard of English.</p>	100 hours of proven PSI experience undertaken in the UK
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Rejected applicants may appeal the decision in writing giving reasons for the appeal. NRPSI's decision on registration is final.

## Requirements of Registrants at Annual Renewal

All Registrants are required to provide information at their annual renewal to stay on the National Register. The following details the information relating to education and experience:

### Full Status

In order to maintain the skills and expertise that interpreters have evidenced when first registering at Full Status, they need to practise their profession. NRPSI therefore requires evidence of **10 hours proven PSI experience**, undertaken in the UK in the last year, at each annual renewal. If the Registrant is unable to provide this, an explanation should be provided, together with a description of how the interpreting skills have been maintained.

### Interim Status

Interim Status (a): Registrants are expected to upgrade to Full Status **within five years** of first registration by providing evidence of more than 400 hours PSI. NRPSI requires evidence of at least 10 hours proven PSI experience, undertaken in the UK in the last year, at each annual renewal (see Full Status above).

Interim Status (b): Registrants are expected to upgrade to Full Status **within three years** of first registration by providing evidence of having completed a full PSI qualification. NRPSI requires evidence of at least 10 hours proven PSI experience, undertaken in the UK in the last year, at each annual renewal (see Full Status above).

### Rare Language Status

Registered languages on the Rare Language Status are reviewed by the Selection Panel at each annual renewal. The Registrant must provide evidence of having tried to sit an examination in their language (for example by providing evidence that they have contacted IoLET regarding sitting the DPSI or DPI). If a PSI qualification has become available the Registrant **must take the examination** or lose their Rare Language Status. Registrants on the Rare Language Status are required to provide evidence of at least 10 hours proven PSI experience **and** details of **Continuing Professional Development** activities that they have carried out in the last year (for guidance see unit CFAINT05 of the [National Occupational Standards](#)).