

***Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.******Description of Certifications*****Generalist**

Certificates classified as generalist signify skills in a broad range of general interpreting/transliterating assignments. Holders of generalist certificates have met or exceeded a nationally recognized standard of minimum competence in interpreting and/or transliterating. Individual certificates vary in their scope so it is important to know what each credential means.

**NIC (National Interpreter Certification)****NIC**

Individuals who achieve the NIC level have passed the NIC Knowledge exam. They have also scored within the standard range of a professional interpreter on the interview and performance portions of the test.

**NIC Advanced**

Individuals who achieved the NIC Advanced level have passed the NIC Knowledge exam; scored within the standard range of a professional interpreter on the interview portion; and scored within the high range on the performance portion of the test.

**NIC Master**

Individuals who achieved the NIC Master level have passed the NIC Knowledge exam. They have scored within the high range of a professional interpreter on both the interview and performance portions of the test. Individuals who achieve any of the three NIC certification levels are to be commended.

**RID Certificates****CI (Certificate of Interpretation)**

Holders of this certificate are recognized as fully certified in interpretation and have demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English for both sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign tasks. The interpreter's ability to transliterate is not considered in this certification. Holders of the CI are recommended for a broad range of interpretation assignments. This test is no longer available.

**CT (Certificate of Transliteration)**

Holders of this certificate are recognized as fully certified in transliteration and have demonstrated the ability to transliterate between English-based sign language and spoken English for both sign-to-voice and voice-to-sign tasks. The transliterator's ability to interpret is not considered in this certification. Holders of the CT are recommended for a broad range of transliteration assignments. This test is no longer available.

**CI and CT (Certificate of Interpretation and Certificate of Transliteration)**

Holders of both full certificates (as listed above) have demonstrated competence in both interpretation and transliteration. Holders of the CI and CT are recommended for a broad range of interpretation and transliteration assignments.

**CDI-P (Certified Deaf Interpreter-Provisional)**

Holders of this provisional certification are interpreters who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and who have demonstrated a minimum of one year experience working as an interpreter; completion of at least eight hours of training on the NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct; and eight hours of training in general interpretation as it relates to the interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments where an interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This test is no longer available.

**CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter)**

Holders of this certification are interpreters who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and who have completed at least eight hours of training on the NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct; and eight hours of training on the role and function of an interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing; and have passed a comprehensive combination of written and performance tests. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments where an interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This test is currently available.

**CSC (Comprehensive Skills Certificate)**

Holders of this full certificate have demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English and to transliterate between spoken English and an English-based sign language. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of interpreting and transliterating assignments. The CSC examination was offered until 1987. This test is no longer offered.

**MCSC (Master Comprehensive Skills Certificate)**

The MCSC examination was designed with the intent of testing for a higher standard of performance than the CSC. Holders of this certificate were required to hold the CSC prior to taking this exam. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of interpreting and transliterating assignments. This test is no longer available.

**RSC (Reverse Skills Certificate)**

Holders of this full certificate demonstrated the ability to interpret between American Sign Language (ASL) and English-based sign language or transliterate between spoken English and a signed code for English. Holders of this certificate are deaf or hard-of-hearing and interpretation/transliteration is rendered in ASL, spoken English, a signed code for English or written English. Holders of the RSC are recommended for a broad range of interpreting assignments where the use of an interpreter who is deaf or hard-of-hearing would be beneficial. This test is no longer offered. Individuals interested in this certificate should take the CDI exam.

**OTC (Oral Transliteration Certificate)**

Holders of this generalist certificate have demonstrated, using silent oral techniques and natural gestures, the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. They have also demonstrated the ability to understand and repeat the message and intent of the speech and mouth movements of the person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This test is currently available.

**OIC:C (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Comprehensive)**

Holders of this generalist certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing and the ability to understand and repeat the message and intent of the speech and mouth movements of the person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This test is no longer offered. Individuals interested in oral certification should take the OTC exam.

**OIC:S/V (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Spoken to Visible)**

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate a spoken message from a person who hears to a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing. This individual received scores on the OIC:C examination which prevented the awarding of full OIC:C certification. This test is no longer offered. Individuals interested in oral certification should take the OTC exam.

**OIC:V/S (Oral Interpreting Certificate: Visible to Spoken)**

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to understand the speech and silent mouth movements of a person who is deaf or hard-of-hearing and to repeat the message for a hearing person. This individual received scores on the OIC:C examination which prevented the awarding of full OIC:C certification. This test is no longer offered. Individuals interested in oral certification should take the OTC exam noted above.

**IC/TC (Interpretation Certificate/Transliteration Certificate)**

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to transliterate between English and a signed code for English and the ability to interpret between American Sign Language (ASL) and spoken English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification. The test is no longer offered.

**IC (Interpretation Certificate)**

Holder of this partial certificate demonstrated ability to interpret between American Sign Language and spoken English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification or partial IC/TC certification. The IC was formerly known as the Expressive Interpreting Certificate (EIC). The IC is no longer offered.

**TC (Transliteration Certificate)**

Holders of this partial certificate demonstrated the ability to transliterate between spoken English and a signed code for English. This individual received scores on the CSC examination which prevented the awarding of full CSC certification or IC/TC certification. The TC was formerly known as the Expressive Transliterating Certificate (ETC). This test is no longer offered.

**CLIP (Conditional Legal Interpreting Permit)**

Holders of this conditional permit completed an RID-recognized training program designed for interpreters and transliterators who work in legal settings. Generalist certification (CI and CT, or CSC) was required prior to enrollment in the training program. Holders of this conditional permit are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. This test is no longer available.

**CLIP-R (Conditional Legal Interpreting Permit-Relay)**

Holders of this conditional permit have completed an RID-recognized training program designed for interpreters and transliterators who work in legal settings, and who are also deaf or hard-of-hearing. Generalist certification for interpreters/translitterators who are deaf or hard-of-hearing (RSC, CDI-P or CDI) is required prior to enrollment in the training program. This permit is valid until one year after a legal written and performance test for deaf interpreters becomes available nationally. CLIP-R holders will be required to take and pass the new legal certification examination to maintain certification in the specialized area of interpreting in legal settings. Holders of this conditional permit are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. This test is currently available.

**Specialist**

Certificates classified as specialist signify skills in a particular area or specialty of interpretation. Holders of specialty certificates have demonstrated specialized knowledge in a specific area of interpreting. Individual certificates vary in their scope so it is important to know what each credential means.

**SC:L (Specialist Certificate: Legal)**

Holders of this specialist certificate have demonstrated specialized knowledge of legal settings and greater familiarity with language used in the legal system. Generalist certification, documented training and legal interpreting experience are required prior to sitting for this exam. Holders of the SC:L are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the legal setting. This test is currently available.

**Prov. SC:L (Provisional Specialist Certificate: Legal)**

Holders of this provisional certificate hold generalist certification and have completed RID approved legal training. Holders of this certificate are recommended for assignments in the legal setting. This test is no longer available.

**SC:PA (Specialist Certificate: Performing Arts)**

Holders of this certificate were required to hold RID generalist certification (CSC) prior to sitting for this examination and have demonstrated specialized knowledge in performing arts interpretation. Holders of this certificate are recommended for a broad range of assignments in the performing arts setting. This test is no longer available.

Reference: Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. website

<http://rid.org/>

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