

Court Interpreter Oral Examination Policy Change FAQ



1. When does the Colorado Office of Language Access (OLA) proctor court interpreter oral examinations (oral exams)?

OLA proctors oral exams four times a year (March, June, September and December). Registration cut-off is about a month before the exam to allow the National Center for State Courts and OLA sufficient time to prepare the exam material.

2. What is the cost of the oral exam?

- Full Examination - \$350
- Partial Examination - \$135 per section

3. I have completed steps one through four of the interpreter certification process and I am ready to take the oral exam – what do I do?

Email interpreters@judicial.state.co.us to sign up! You will have to take the full oral exam the first time.

4. I took the oral exam in 2021 and passed the simultaneous section. Can I now re-take the sight and consecutive sections only?

No, carryover scores are only valid for two years. You will be required to re-take the full oral exam.

5. I took the oral exam in January 2023 and did not pass any of the sections. Can I take the Two-Phase Test?

Yes, you can sign up for the simultaneous section first.

6. I passed the simultaneous section of the exam (Phase One). When can I take the sight and consecutive sections (Phase Two)?

You can take Phase 2 during the next exam date.

7. I am a Qualified Interpreter, but do not wish to take the Certification examination at this time. Will I lose my Qualified status?

No, your Qualified status does not expire.

8. What happens if I take and pass one section, but I do not take the second portion within the two years provided?

You will have to retake the full exam after the two years have expired.

9. What are the two acceptable options for taking the oral exam?

- Full Test: Administration of all three test sections at one time. (Mandatory for first time testers)
- Two-Phase Test: Administration of the simultaneous section as Phase One and, for candidates who pass to move on, sight translation and consecutive as Phase Two.

10. How many times within the two-year period can I retake phase 2?

You can re-test every six months, so you will be able to retake Phase Two a total of three times in two years.

11. If I pass the simultaneous portion the first time I take the oral exam (in one sitting), can I proceed to Phase Two?

Yes, if you have passed the simultaneous portion of the oral exam only on your first sitting, you can proceed to Phase Two.

12. Do I have to pay for the portion of the test each time I re-take the test?

Yes, you are required to pay for each re-testing.