



Technical Specification

ISO/TS 6253

Requirements and recommendations for training programmes in community interpreting

*Exigences et recommandations pour les programmes de
formation en interprétation de service public*

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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Translation, interpreting and related technology*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document is intended to be used in conjunction with other interpreting standards, principally ISO 13611, ISO 18841, ISO 20228 and ISO 21998, with the objective to form the basis for community interpreting training programmes.

Interpreters render spoken or signed content from a source language to a target language in oral or signed form. Community interpreting training varies significantly worldwide, while there is a growing demand for interpreters in public services, healthcare, law enforcement and other communicative settings. This document addresses the necessity of standardized requirements and specific recommendations for community interpreting training, including comprehensive guidelines on learning outcomes and curricula. It aims to improve community interpreter education and promote comparability in training programmes.

This document provides both a foundation for the design and development of new programmes and serves as a reference for existing programmes. It is intended to support educators, educational and training institutions, community interpreters and users of community interpreting services, including public-sector organizations and language service providers (LSPs) that provide training programmes for interpreters as a service or product, to assess the usefulness and relevance of training programmes designed to prepare community interpreters to provide their services.

This document also supports organizations, and educational and training institutions in the recruitment, hiring and retention of community interpreter educators.

This document does not address existing programmes within post-secondary institutions. Additionally, it does not aim to define the qualifications of academic staff and administrators in post-secondary institutions.

Requirements and recommendations for training programmes in community interpreting

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and recommendations for the core competences taught in training programmes in community interpreting.

This document also identifies the core competences of educators who deliver training programmes in community interpreting.

This document is applicable to signed languages and spoken languages, and addresses consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting, including whispered interpreting, as well as sight translation.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

'A' language

primary *language* (3.16) or its strict equivalent of which the *interpreter* (3.12) has complete command and into which the interpreter interprets from all their other 'A' languages, 'B' languages (3.2) or 'C' languages

[SOURCE: ISO 20539:2023, 3.4.8]

3.2

'B' language

language (3.16) in which the *interpreter* (3.12) is proficient, but which is not their primary language or its strict equivalent

Note 1 to entry: An interpreter interprets into this language from one or more other languages.

[SOURCE: ISO 20539:2023, 3.4.9]

3.3

communicative event

encounter between two or more parties during which information is transmitted

[SOURCE: ISO 20539:2023, 3.4.32]