

The State of North Carolina is a member of the Consortium for Language Access in the Courts and administers the written and oral examinations developed by the Consortium. A passing rate in North Carolina is achieved with a score of 70% or more on each of the three test sections. For more information regarding North Carolina's court interpreter certification program, please refer to the Overview of the Oral Performance Examination for Prospective Court Interpreters on our web site under the link for interpreters.

PASSING RATES FOR NC COURT INTERPRETER CERTIFICATION ORAL EXAMINATION

2000

- **43 candidates** sat for the examination and **13 passed** all three sections, giving us a **30% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at grant expense and required for all candidates**

2001

- **38 candidates** sat for the examination and **8 passed** all three sections, giving us a **21% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at grant expense and required for all candidates**

2002

- **28 candidates** sat for the examination and **1 passed** all three sections, giving us a **4% passing rate**
- **No extra skills training was provided**

2003

- **24 candidates** sat for the examination and **9 passed** all three sections, giving us a **38% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and 12 attended classes.**

2004

- **19 candidates** sat for the examination and **3 passed** all three sections, giving us a **16% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and 6 attended classes.**

2005

- **15 candidates** sat for the examination and **4 passed** all three sections, giving us a **26% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and 8 attended classes.**

2006

- **15 candidates** sat for the examination and **8 passed** all three sections, giving us a **53% passing rate**

2007

- **26 candidates** sat for the examination and **6 passed** all three sections, giving us a **23% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and required for examinees taking the examination for the first time OR for those examinees who previously tested, but passed only one out of three test sections.**

2008

- **30 candidates** sat for the examination and **7 passed** all three sections, giving us a **23% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and required for examinees taking the examination for the first time OR for those examinees who previously tested, but passed only one out of three test sections.**

2009

- **29 candidates** sat for the examination and **15 passed** all three sections, giving us a **51% passing rate**
- **Extra skills training was provided at interpreter expense and required for examinees taking the examination for the first time OR for those examinees who previously tested, but passed only one out of three test sections.**

Although these rates may seem low, please consider the following:

The test is difficult. It is designed to identify those persons with the skills necessary to interpret in a legal setting, which may be the most challenging context within which to provide interpreting services. Being bilingual has nothing to do with the ability to interpret, especially when it comes to the legal setting. The overall passage rate for the states that have administered the Consortium's Spanish interpreter examination since 1995 is 26%.