

CDI Written Test Outline

The following is a detailed outline of the **four domains** of the examination with an indication in parentheses of the approximate percentage of questions devoted to each area. The test has 100 multiple-choice questions.

I. Professional Roles and Responsibilities (approximately 33 questions)

- a. Support consumers in giving feedback to hiring agent and/or requester
- b. Assess whether qualified to accept assignment
- c. Assess level of comfort with the assignment (i.e., determine whether personal relationships or uncomfortable topics may affect ability to provide impartial services)
- d. Maintain confidentiality so that consumer privacy is safeguarded
- e. Maintain currency with literature on interpreting and related fields (e.g., language, communications, social anthropology)
- f. Attend workshops and classes on interpreting and related fields
- g. Pursue professional interpreting certification(s) and engage in activities necessary to maintain certification(s)
- h. Adhere to accepted business practices
- i. Allow time to prepare adequately for the assignment prior to commencement of service
- j. Abide by the RID Code of Ethics
- k. Maintain working knowledge of existing federal, state, and local laws that impact the interpreting profession and Deaf community (e.g., ADA, PL93-112, Vocational Rehabilitation Act – 1973, IDEA)
- l. Protect assignment-related information by abstaining from assignment-related discussion with consumers after interpreting assignment has been completed

II. Preparation for Service Delivery (approximately 20 questions)

- a. Determine the number of consumers expected; names of consumers and team interpreter(s); date, time, and duration of the interpreting assignment; the number of interpreters needed; and the location, setting, and format (e.g., lecture, group discussion)
- b. Become familiar through conversation with consumers' style of discourse, including language structure, register, sociolinguistics, regional dialect, and goal of interaction
- c. Determine consumers' previous experience and level of comfort with interpreters
- d. Confer with consumers on communication and social logistics for the assignment (e.g., How should the interpreter interrupt speaker if clarification is needed?)
- e. Become familiar with the nature of material to be communicated during the assignment, including technical terms, code names for projects, or acronyms that may arise
- f. Discuss pertinent knowledge of assignment, consumer, setting, etc., with members of the interpreting team
- g. Define functions and logistics for members of the interpreting team
- h. Recognize physical, psychological, and emotional implications of the assignment
- i. Develop agreement with consumers regarding the specifics of compensation
- j. Determine, in conjunction with consumers, proper physical placement of interpreter(s) and consumers to assure visual accessibility
- k. Evaluate visual factors (e.g., lighting, obstructions) and media that may interfere with communication
- l. Discuss effective turn taking strategies
- m. Explain the role and function of the interpreter(s) and/or team

III. Provision of Service (approximately 37 questions)

- a. Inform consumers of any problems with environment and interpreter's efforts to make needed changes
- b. Negotiate with consumer(s) to create working conditions that will facilitate the most accurate and comfortable delivery of interpreting services (e.g., changes in the form of the presentation, pauses)
- c. Process source message to determine semantic intent
- d. Construct equivalent message in target language
- e. Convey equivalent message using language that is culturally and linguistically appropriate
- f. Maintain message integrity, content, register, and affect
- g. Get clarification if necessary
- h. Monitor direct and indirect consumer feedback periodically to determine if message is comprehended clearly and fully
- i. Perform the agreed upon functions of team interpreting
- j. Communicate with team member(s) to assess effectiveness of the interpreting
- k. Maintain awareness of boundaries, stamina, and mental clarity
- l. Make adjustments as circumstances arise

IV. Post-Service Closure (approximately 10 questions)

- a. Address consumer's request for further interpreting assignments appropriately
- b. Interpret for consumer(s) while giving feedback to hiring agent and/or person who requested the services
- c. Answer questions consumers may have about the interpreting process
- d. Conduct self-appraisal of interpreting performance
- e. Participate in the appraisal of the team interpreting performance
- f. Develop strategies for improving performance and approaching future assignments based on self-appraisal and feedback
- g. Incorporate factors through feedback from consumer, self-analysis, and team appraisal in future assignments
- h. Perform the necessary paperwork to receive payment
- i. Reiterate the interpreter's obligations, role, scope of service, and responsibilities