

Language Evaluation Form

Applicant Name: _____ Language: _____

Evaluator's name: _____ Email: _____

The above applicant is applying to be a volunteer medical interpreter at Open Door Clinic. As a free medical clinic serving uninsured and underinsured adults in Addison County, Vermont, USA, and staffed by volunteers, we provide essential medical care to individuals of many backgrounds. We have an increasing number of patients whose primary language is not English, so we rely on volunteer medical interpreters to facilitate communication and thus insure high quality medical care.

Please complete the following form and feel free to contact us should you have questions or wish to discuss any part of your evaluation further at 802-388-0137 or odc@opendoormidd.org.

Once completed, please return this form directly to the Open Door Clinic via email, fax (802-388-4498) or regular mail (100 Porter Dr., Middlebury, VT 05753, USA). Thank you!

Evaluator's relationship to the applicant: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

Under what circumstances have you observed the applicant's use of the identified language?

Are you a professional language educator? **Y / N**

Are you a native speaker of the target language? **Y / N**

Are you familiar with the applicant's *current* language abilities? **Y / N**

If your knowledge of the applicant's abilities is not current, for what time period are you able to comment on their language abilities? _____

Are you aware of any translating or interpreting experience this applicant has had? **Y / N**

If yes, please briefly describe: _____

Please describe any hesitations you may have about recommending this individual as a volunteer medical interpreter with our organization. You may attach additional pages as necessary.

Please **highlight** on the back page the number that best describes the applicant's target language skills. This tool is fully available at www.altalang.com/language-testing/protocols/



Interpretation Performance Levels

Level General Description

- 1-3 The candidate has no ability to interpret from one language to another.
- 4 The candidate can interpret some isolated words and simple expressions. Speech is slow and accuracy is inconsistent.
- 5 The candidate can interpret some phrases and simple sentences using subjects and verbs in the present tense. Vocabulary in the second language is limited. Speech is slow and accuracy is inconsistent.
- 6 The candidate is unable to interpret general discourse. While the candidate may be familiar with the subject matter for interpretation, pauses and hesitations affect the fluidity and understanding of the interpretation.
- 7 The candidate can sometimes interpret short exchanges centering on routine and repetitive subject matter (for example, dates and time), but cannot interpret general discourse. The candidate controls most simple tenses, but cannot use advanced tenses. The candidate experiences difficulty reproducing the content accurately.
- 8 The candidate can interpret social and general conversation with a moderate degree of accuracy. He or she controls all simple tenses, but avoids advanced tenses, causing some misunderstanding and affecting the accuracy of the interpretation. The candidate experiences some difficulty with normal rates of speech and may summarize content, thus compromising the integrity of the interpretation.
- 9 The candidate can interpret general and subject-specific conversations in most social and work-related settings. He or she will experience some difficulty with topics that are advanced or too specialized, but is capable of conveying some nuanced language, as well as idioms and slang. Speech may be slower than that of a native speaker. The candidate will not always use advanced grammatical structures effectively and may cause misunderstandings based on the lack of ability to clearly convey the message.
- 10 The candidate can successfully interpret conversations on a broad range of subject matter, including some specialized subject matter, at a normal rate of speech and with a high degree of accuracy. He or she may experience difficulty with slang or advanced grammatical structures, but can convey the meaning of the discourse accurately. Errors in grammar may occur, but do not affect the meaning of the message.
- 11 The candidate can interpret general and complex speech including idioms and slang with a high degree of accuracy. The candidate can interpret for a wide range of subject matter, including unfamiliar subject matter if some context is provided. Speech is fluid. Errors are rare and do not affect the meaning of the discourse.
- 12 The candidate can interpret all forms and styles of speech with a near-native degree of fluency in both languages. Speech is fluid. Errors are extremely rare and do not affect the meaning of the discourse.
- 12+ The candidate can interpret all forms of speech with a native degree of fluency in both languages. He or she speaks with no errors, or quickly self-corrects any errors made. Interpretation is conducted at the highest professional standards possible.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful feedback. By signing below, you indicate that, to the best of your knowledge, the information provided here is complete and accurate.

Evaluator's Signature

Date

