



WASHINGTON STATE COURT INTERPRETER PROGRAM

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING CERTIFICATION

NEW TIME LIMITS ON WRITTEN EXAM RESULTS

In October 2008, the Washington Court Interpreter Commission made a change to the certification process. In the past, candidates passing the written exam had no time limit for passing the oral exam. For example, someone who passed the written exam ten or more years ago was still qualified to take the oral exam. This is now changing and the new policy is:

*Passing the written examination is a prerequisite to sitting for the oral examination. However, a **passing score of the written examination shall only be valid for three years.** If a candidate passes the written examination, yet fails to pass the oral examination within three years of the written examination date, the candidate must re-take the written examination in order to be eligible for future oral examinations.*

For the 2009 Oral Exam, we will still accept any applicant who has passed the written exam, regardless of year. We are doing this because participants have not been put on notice about this change. However, you are now on notice for future years. **Therefore, beginning in 2010, you may only register for the oral exam if you have passed the written exam in 2008, 2009 or 2010.** If you need to retake the written exam next year, the exam will be in February 2010 and registration information will be available on our website in December 2009.

All policies governing the certification process for the Court Interpreter Program can be found online by following these steps:

1. Log onto www.courts.wa, and select "Programs" on the left-hand side.
2. In the list of programs, select "Court Interpreters."
3. Select "Certified Interpreters" and scroll down to "Certified Interpreter Program Policies Manual."

IN 2010 WE WILL NO LONGER MAIL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

In an effort to conserve resources, in 2010 we will stop sending registration information by postal mail. Instead, details and registration forms for the written exam, oral exam, and skills building seminars will be posted on our website.