

Maryland Court Interpreter Program

- Certification exams in 14 languages are scheduled twice a year in the following languages: Arabic, BSC (Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian), Cantonese, French, Haitian-Creole, Korean, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Certified court interpreters in 11 languages.
- 62 languages listed on the Court Interpreter Registry for a total of 438 interpreters. The Court Interpreter Release List containing interpreter names is available for state agencies, hospitals, schools, and law firms.
- All Registry interpreters are required to meet continuing education (CE) requirements by accumulating 16 hours of CE every two years. Three hours must be in Court Interpreter Ethics.
- Largest language need in the courts is for Spanish. Maryland Judiciary has 23 Spanish interpreters on staff in the Circuit and District Courts. Lesser languages requests are for French, Korean, Russian, Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese.
- Translations of 200 District and Circuit court forms have been completed in Spanish, Chinese, French, Korean, and Russian. Foreign language portals were created on the Maryland Judiciary website where the translated forms and additional information can be found.
- The Court Language Services page of the Maryland Judiciary has been updated and now contains information about: 1) Judiciary language services for the public; 2) Court Interpreter Program for individuals interested in becoming court interpreters; 3) Language Access Toolkit (for court use only)
- Video-remote American Sign language interpretation services for hard-of-hearing customers are now available in many courthouses. The Court Interpreter program staff distributed 30 laptops and provided extensive training to court personnel on how to use video-remote ASL services.
- One-Day Introductory Workshops, Court Interpreter Written Examinations, Language Proficiency Interviews, Two-Day Orientation Workshops, and Certification Examinations are conducted twice yearly. Specialty workshops are offered to Registry interpreters on DNA and Forensics, Crime Scene Investigation, Domestic Violence, Weapons, Drugs and Illegal Substances, Latino Gangs, Voice and Speech Training, and Court Interpreter Ethics.
- The Court Interpreter Program introduced a new interpreter management software ScheduleInterpreter in 2020. The application streamlines the assignment and invoicing processes for courts and court interpreters. Interpreters have access to an app On the Spot to accept or decline assignments.