

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

The Accreditation Committee has conducted a very exhaustive research with other organizations concerning their accreditation requirements, which would serve as a basis for the recommendations of the Committee. The organizations are:

Translation:

ATA

Colegio de Traductores Públicos de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires

NATI (Nebraska Assoc. of I&T)

TAPIT (Tennessee Assoc. of Professionals I&T)

AATIA (Austin Area T&I Assoc.)

IITA (Iowa I&T Assoc.)

Interpretation:

Medical interpreters: NCIHC, MMIA, MING, SOMI, CHIA, CAPI, CCIO

Court interpreters: NAJIT

Conference interpreters: AIIC (Association Internationale des Interprètes de Conférence)

The Accreditation Committee strongly recommends implementing the accreditation procedure described below mainly based on three important premises:

- The AAIT is the only association of translators and interpreters in the Southeastern region of the United States. For this reason, we believe that we should support the highest educational and professional standards among our members. Since Atlanta in general and the Southeastern region of the United States in particular have become important venues for many international events, we are truly convinced that the better prepared and qualified our members are, the better they will serve the local community and meet its needs. By the same token, many important social and economic changes are taking place in the region too. Our members should be able to provide a very high quality job.
- Promoting the highest educational and professional standards will also give AAIT a competitive edge for the recognition and advocacy of the profession.
- Last, but not least, our chapter should reflect and support the guidelines established by ATA in terms of quality, continuing education and professional excellence.

The Committee recommends starting the accreditation process by September 1, 2006, which will be implemented and effective as from January 1, 2007.

Recommendations for Accreditation:

Translators' Accreditation:

Translators will be accredited by AAIT provided that:

- They have a *Certificate of Competence* or a *Degree (Bachelor or equivalent or Master) in Translation*, issued by a national or foreign university or institution,

- recognized by the ATA (please visit their website, www.atanet.org, Certification, for more information), **or**
- They are *ATA Certified Translators*, **and**
 - They have a provable 5-year working experience.

Translators will need to submit a copy of their diploma/ATA certificate along with their resume.

Interpreters' Accreditation:

Interpreters will be accredited by AAIT provided that:

- They have a *Certificate of Competence* or a *Degree (Bachelor or equivalent or Master) in Interpretation*, issued by a national or foreign university or institution, approved by the ATA (please visit their website, www.atanet.org, Certification, for more information), **or**
- They are *Certified by the Commission on Interpreters of Georgia, NAJIT, the Department of State, the Federal Government (for court interpreters), the Massachusetts Medical Interpreters Association, or are active members of AIC*, **and**
- They have a provable 5-year working experience.
- **For medical interpreters:** Since no certification is available yet, except in the States of Washington and Massachusetts, medical interpreters will be required to complete a minimum 40-hour training (like Bridging the Gap) in addition to the working experience requirement in order to be accredited by AAIT.
- **For conference interpreters:** The Accreditation Committee has established a minimum of 120 hours per year (around 10 hours per month). However, it strongly recommends full-time conference interpreters to observe guidelines of the AAIC described in the appendix.

Interpreters will need to submit a copy of their diploma/certificate along with their resume.

It is recommended that members submit a sworn statement as to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information provided.

Continuing Education Units for Accreditation/Renewal of Membership:

The Accreditation Committee recommends requiring members **a total of 20 CEU over 3 years** in order to maintain their accredited status. Since the accreditation process will not start until July 1, 2006, it is recommended that members submit a certain number of CEU towards the total ones required in order to maintain their accredited status. This requirement will be effective **starting on January 1, 2007**, unless members have recently graduated from college or are just starting business. Members will also be required to participate at least in two AAIT activities a year. AAIT encourages non-accredited members to take continuing education units.

The next steps in the accreditation process:

- 1) These new accreditation guidelines will be incorporated into the by-laws.
- 2) Members will be required to send their credentials for the Accreditation Committee to review them and determine whether or not members qualify for accreditation on a case by case basis.
- 3) All appeals will be reviewed on a case by case basis and the decision of the Accreditation Committee will be final.

ADDENDUM

The AAIT Accreditation Committee would like to include this addendum to the accreditation guidelines recently established.

Our Committee will recognize the Certification that AAIT granted to some of our members in previous years. This procedure is no longer in effect and has been replaced by the present accreditation process. Members who were AAIT certified in the past should provide a copy of the relevant certification together with an updated résumé and continuing education records.

Our Committee will also recognize the active membership status granted by the ATA Peer Review Process. These members should provide a copy of their active membership status together with an updated résumé and continuing education records

The AAIT Accreditation Committee encourages all members to submit their credentials. The pertinent documentation must be sent to:

AAIT, Attn. Accreditation Committee, P.O. Box 12172, Atlanta, GA 30355

AAIT Accreditation Committee

APPENDIX

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES INTERPRÈTES DE CONFÉRENCE (AIIC)

General Requirements

Conference interpreters wishing to join AIIC must have:

1. Worked a minimum of 150 days,
2. Worked at least 50 days into each active language they are requesting and at least 50 days from each passive language they are requesting,
3. Observed all [professional ethics and rules](#) while complying with 1 and 2 above,
4. At least 3 active [members](#) who have been in the association for 5 years as sponsors.

For more information, please visit the website <http://www.aiic.net/>.