



ECI - «EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON INTERPRETATION»

"COMITE EXECUTIF DE L'INTERPRETATION" - CEI

Language profiles in demand with the EU interpreting services

Guidance for those wishing to take an accreditation test

The following table indicates the profiles and the specific languages that a candidate should possess in order to be invited to an accreditation test. It is intended as a guide to students and to universities, and is valid for two consecutive test cycles (2018-2019 and 2019-2020).

Please note that having the requisite profile does not confer an automatic right to be invited. Where the number of applicants exceeds the number of test slots, the authorities may decide to apply further criteria, such as the type of diploma, the nature of experience or the information provided on the acquisition of languages. Moreover, the authorities reserve the right to revise the language profiles in between the two test cycles or to select candidates with a different profile if so justified by the needs of the services.

Applying with a wider language combination than the minimum profile required for admission to the test constitutes an asset. However, please bear in mind that the authorities will select the languages to be tested according to the needs of the services. Different profiles are due to different operational needs in each individual booth.

Notes on the abbreviations used:

BG = Bulgarian, CS = Czech, DA = Danish, DE = German, EL = Greek, EN = English, GA= Irish, ES = Spanish, ET = Estonian, FI = Finnish, FR = French, HR = Croatian, HU = Hungarian, IT = Italian, LT = Lithuanian, LV = Latvian, MT = Maltese, NL = Dutch, PL = Polish, PT = Portuguese, RO = Romanian, SK = Slovak, SL = Slovene, SV = Swedish, AR = Arabic, RU = Russian.

The A language is one (native tongue or equivalent) which the interpreter masters perfectly and into which he/she is capable of interpreting consecutively and simultaneously from all his/her B and C languages. In exceptional cases an interpreter may have two A languages.

The B language is one which the candidate masters at a very high level close to mother-tongue and into which he/she can provide fluent and accurate interpretation in consecutive and simultaneous from the A language. This is also called a *retour* language.

The C language is one which is fully understood and from which the interpreter works into his/her A language.

In the table below, you will find the accreditation profiles for the different EU languages. By way of explanation, ACC means that on top of your A language you need two C languages which are sometimes specified in the column "Language Specifications", ABC means that you need a B language (a retour) and an additional C language, ABCC means that you need a B language (retour) and two additional C languages, and so on.

2018-2019 and 2019-2020 Accreditation Profiles

	Admission	Language specifications	Other priority languages and comments
BG	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE	Candidates with 2 out of EN, FR and DE may be given priority for testing.
	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE; C2 = EN/DE/FR/IT/ES	
CS	A + CC	C1 = EN, C2 = FR/DE/IT/ES	Priority to A+BC. FR/DE are considered a strong asset. SK will not be considered for admission to test.
	A + B	B = EN	
	A + BC	B = FR C = EN	
DA	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE	SV will not be considered for admission to test.
	A + B	B = EN, FR, DE	
DE	A + CCC	C1 = EN	Priority will be given to candidates with three C languages. A retour into EN/FR would be an asset.
	A + CC	C1 = EN, C2 = FR	
EL	A + CC	C1 = EN, C2 = FR/DE/IT/ES/NL	DE, FR and/or a retour would be strong assets.
EN	A + CC	C1 = FR/DE	Priority will be given to an additional C language. A retour into FR/DE/IT/ES would be an asset. AR or RU are eligible as a third C language.
ES	A + CCC	C1 = EN, C2 & C3 = DA/DE/EL/FI/EUR13*	Priority will be given to the 3 C profile, especially to candidates with FR.
	A + CC	C1 = EN; C2 = DA/DE/EL/FI/EUR13*	
ET	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE	
	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE; C2 = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES	

FI	A + CC A + B	B = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES	SV and ET will not be considered for admission to the test.
FR	A + CCC	C1 = EN	AR or RU are eligible as a third C language.
	A + BC A + CC	B = EN C1 = EN C2 = DE/PL/SV/EL/FI/CS/ET/HU/LT/LV/MT/NL/SK/SL/BG/DA/RO /HR	
GA	A + B A + CC	A = EN, B = GA A = EN, C1 = GA; C2 = FR/DE	
HU	A + B	B = EN	Priority will be given to three C languages or to ABC (preferably into EN, alternatively into FR).
	A + CC	C1 = EN, C2 = FR/DE/ES/IT/NL/EL/PL/PT	
HR	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES	Priority will be given to retour.
	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE C2 = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES/NL/PT	
IT	A + CCC	C1 = EN/FR/DE	Priority for C2 = DA/FI/NL/EL/SV/EUR13* For operational reasons the language profiles EN/FR/ES or EN/FR/PT are not a priority.
	A + BC	B = EN C = FR/DE	
LT	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE	
LV	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE	
	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE	

MT	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE C2 = EU language different from languages A and C1	Additional C languages (EN/FR/DE) would be a strong asset.
	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES	
NL	A + CCC	C1 = EN C2 = FR/DE/IT/ES	Priority will be given to three C languages.
	A + BCC	B = EN/FR	
	A + CC	C1 = EN	
	A + BC	B = EN	
PL	A + BC	B = EN + C = FR/DE/IT/ES or B = FR/DE + C = EN	
	A + CCC	C1 = EN C2 = FR/DE/IT/ES	
PT	A + CCC	C1 = EN	EN obligatory as B or C in all profiles.
	A + BC	B = EN/FR/DE	
	A + CC	C1 = EN C2 = DE	
RO	A + B	B = EN	A retour into EN/FR/DE would be a strong asset.
	A + BC	B = FR/DE/ES/IT C = EN	
	A + CC	C1 = EN	
SK	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES	Priority to A+BC and to A+CCC (official EU languages). CS does not count in the profiles. Priority will be given to FR in the linguistic combination.
	A + CC	C1 = EN, C2 = DE/FR/ES/IT	
SL	A + B	B = EN/FR/DE	HR will not be considered for admission to test.
	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE, C2 = EN/FR/DE/IT/ES/NL	
SV	A + CC	C1 = EN/FR/DE	DA will not be considered for admission to test. An ABC combination would be a strong asset.

/ stands for "or"

*EUR13 = (BG/CS/ET/LT/LV/HU/MT/PL/RO/SK/SL/HR)