

**MEDICAL INTERPRETER AMENDMENTS**

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla**

House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill expands the tests and languages that may be accepted by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing for licensing a certified medical language interpreter.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▶ expands the tests and languages that may be accepted by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing for licensing a certified medical language interpreter; and

▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**58-80a-102**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 127

**58-80a-303**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 127

---

---

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*



28 Section 1. Section **58-80a-102** is amended to read:

29 **58-80a-102. Definitions.**

30 As used in this chapter:

31 (1) "Certified medical language interpreter" means a medical language interpreter who  
32 has received a certificate from the division under this chapter.

33 (2) "Health care provider" means a person licensed under:

34 (a) Title 58, Chapter 5a, Podiatric Physician Licensing Act;

35 (b) Title 58, Chapter 16a, Utah Optometry Practice Act;

36 (c) Title 58, Chapter 17b, Pharmacy Practice Act;

37 (d) Title 58, Chapter 24b, Physical Therapy Practice Act;

38 (e) Title 58, Chapter 31b, Nurse Practice Act;

39 (f) Title 58, Chapter 31c, Nurse Licensure Compact;

40 (g) Title 58, Chapter 31d, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact;

41 (h) Title 58, Chapter 44a, Nurse Midwife Practice Act;

42 (i) Title 58, Chapter 57, Respiratory Care Practices Act;

43 (j) Title 58, Chapter 60, Mental Health Professional Practice Act;

44 (k) Title 58, Chapter 61, Psychologist Licensing Act;

45 (l) Title 58, Chapter 67, Utah Medical Practice Act;

46 (m) Title 58, Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act;

47 (n) Title 58, Chapter 69, Dentist and Dental Hygienist Practice Act;

48 (o) Title 58, Chapter 70a, Physician Assistant Act;

49 (p) Title 58, Chapter 71, Naturopathic Physician Practice Act;

50 (q) Title 58, Chapter 73, Chiropractic Physician Practice Act; or

51 (r) Title 58, Chapter 77, Direct-Entry Midwife Act.

52 (3) "Medical language interpreter" means a person who, for compensation, performs  
53 verbal language interpretation services between a health care provider who speaks English and  
54 another person for the purpose of assisting the person in seeking or obtaining medical advice,  
55 diagnoses, or treatment.

56 (4) "National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters" means the national  
57 organization for certifying medical interpreters that is accredited by the National Commission  
58 for Certifying Agencies.

59           ~~[(4)]~~ (5) "National standards of practice" means the National Standards of Practice,  
60 published by the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care.

61           Section 2. Section **58-80a-303** is amended to read:

62           **58-80a-303. Qualifications for certification.**

63           A person qualifies as a certified medical language interpreter if the person:

64           (1) acts as a medical language interpreter between English and at least one ~~[of the~~  
65 ~~following languages:]~~ other language;

66           ~~[(a) Spanish;]~~

67           ~~[(b) Russian;]~~

68           ~~[(c) Bosnian;]~~

69           ~~[(d) Somali;]~~

70           ~~[(e) Mandarin Chinese;]~~

71           ~~[(f) Cantonese; or]~~

72           ~~[(g) Navajo;]~~

73           ~~[(2) passes an examination administered by, or under contract with, the division, that~~  
74 ~~tests:]~~

75           (2) passes an examination:

76           (a) administered by:

77           (i) the division;

78           (ii) a person under contract with the division;

79           (iii) the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters; or

80           (iv) a person approved by division rule, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah  
81 Administrative Rulemaking Act; and

82           (b) that tests:

83           ~~[(a)]~~ (i) the following areas, with respect to ~~[the]~~ each language for which the person  
84 applies for certification:

85           ~~[(i)]~~ (A) basic language fluency;

86           ~~[(ii)]~~ (B) basic medical terminology, including the ability to ~~[-(A)]~~ name human body  
87 parts~~[-(B)]~~, name internal human organs~~[-(C)]~~, describe basic medical symptoms~~[-(D)]~~, and ~~[(D)]~~  
88 describe basic medical instructions, including dosage amounts and frequency; and

89           ~~[(iii)]~~ (C) basic cultural competency relating to medical care beliefs and practices that

- 90 are common to people who speak that language;
- 91       ~~(b)~~ (ii) knowledge and understanding of the national standards of practice; and
- 92       ~~(c)~~ (iii) a basic understanding of medical confidentiality requirements, including the
- 93 confidentiality requirements of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act;
- 94       (3) signs a statement agreeing to abide by the national standards of practice; and
- 95       (4) pays the fee described in Section [58-80a-305](#).

---

**Legislative Review Note**  
**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**