

Information and application for Bridging the Gap: training of medical interpreters

Becoming a Medical Interpreter

Are you interested in a career in healthcare that uses your bilingual and bicultural skills? Here is a great training opportunity for you!

For more than 20 years, the Utah Department of Health & Human Services has trained bilingual and bicultural individuals on how to become effective medical interpreters. We use the *Bridging the Gap Medical Interpreter Training*, a nationally recognized training course from the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program.

Bridging the Gap (BTG) is a **64-hour** professional development program that prepares bilingual individuals to work as medical interpreters. BTG is used to train both novice and experienced medical interpreters, and is the first step towards national certification. Both accredited national certifying bodies, the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) and the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI), accept BTG.

Description of the Program

This 64-hour professional training is provided in English over a period of three weeks. The course covers:

- **Basic Interpreting Skills.** Roles, ethics, conduit and clarifier interpreting, managing the flow of the session, intervening, sight translation, and memory development.
- **Codes of Ethics.** Codes of ethics and decision-making for interpreters in healthcare.
- **Integrated Medical Terminology, Anatomy, and Physiology.** Introduction to medical terminology, common terms, common health problems, basic medical procedures, and specialties relating to human anatomy/physiology and health.
- **Healthcare Systems.** Introduction to the healthcare systems and types of health care providers.
- **Culture in Interpreting.** Self-awareness, basic characteristics of specific cultures, traditional healthcare in specific communities, and culture brokering
- **Communication Skills for Advocacy.** Listening skills, communication styles, how doctors think, and appropriate advocacy
- **Professional Development.** Effective communication, professional conduct, self-care, and resources for professional growth

After successful completion, participants will receive a certificate of completion for 64-hour professional medical interpreting training. This certificate may be used to provide proof of professional training to employers and meet educational requirements towards state or national certification programs.

Cost of the Training

This training is **FREE** to individuals that submit a complete application and meet the minimum requirements.

All training books and materials are provided at no cost to those that complete the course.

Admission Requirements

All applicants must meet the following minimum requirements, provide proof of language proficiency, and submit a complete application packet.

Minimum requirements:

- Sponsorship by a not-for-profit organization
- Be 18 or older and have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae describing your experience with medical interpreting
- Proof of language proficiency: participants must be bilingual in English and at least one other language. Proof of proficiency in English and other language may include one of the following for each language:
 - High school diploma or equivalent, or university/college degree from a school using the assessed language(s)
 - Five or more years of verified professional experience working in the language(s) being assessed (as demonstrated in resume or CV)
 - State or federal court interpreter certification
 - Oral language exam results with scores equivalent to ACTFL Advanced Mid-level or ILR Level 2

Training Hours and Location:

This professional training will be taught in Salt Lake City in eight daily sessions beginning Thursday, June 8 through Tuesday, June 27, 2022. Please see schedule below.

Training dates:

Week 1	Day 1	Thursday	8-Jun	3:00 - 7:00PM
	Day 2	Friday	9-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
	Day 3	Saturday	10-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
Week 2	Day 4	Friday	16-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
	Day 5	Saturday	17-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
Week 3	Day 6	Saturday	24-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
Week 4	Day 7	Monday	26-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM
	Day 8	Tuesday	27-Jun	8:30AM - 5:00PM

Application Information

Space is limited and very competitive. Approved participants **MUST** attend the entire 64 hours in order to take the final exam and receive a certificate of successful completion. Failure to attend any portion of the course will result in failure of the course. Participants who fail to attend the entire course will be required to return all provided training materials.

Application Deadlines for the 2022 Summer Training:

- Application opens May 1, 2023
- Application closes May 19, 2023
- Notification of acceptance May 30, 2023

**Applications received before or after the registration period will NOT be accepted.
Incomplete and ineligible applications will NOT be accepted.**

For more information

Please e-mail Rachel Black to be included in the list of prospective participants and to receive additional information about this training.

Rachel Black

Utah Department of Health & Human Services

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<https://heal.health.utah.gov/chw-resources/>