

# Careers in Interpreting and Translation

Enabling people to have their voice heard





# Do you have a passion for languages and the call to make a difference in the community?

A career in Multicultural NSW Language Services may be your next step.

**There's a number of benefits to being an interpreter or translator:**

- No two days are the same! You will work across a variety of settings from legal to medical
- You have flexibility to choose when and where you work from
- You'll be in demand! Skilled interpreters and translators are in demand.

## What would my career look like?

Interpreters and Translators convert information from one language into another language. They play a crucial role in helping individuals and organisations to effectively communicate and collaborate with people from different cultures and backgrounds, overcoming linguistic barriers.

Although some people do both, interpreting and translating are different professions. Interpreters work with spoken communication, and translators work with written information. With each assignment, both interpreters and translators maintain the accuracy and integrity of the language, culture and context.

## Industry Snapshot

A career as an interpreter or translator can be interesting, diverse and rewarding, allowing you to work locally, nationally and internationally across a wide variety of sectors and organisations.

As an interpreter and/or translator, you can work in settings such as hospitals, courts, educational institutions, and law enforcement, and sometimes all of these industries in just one day. You could also use your linguistic skills to work in areas like finance, media and journalism, marketing, tourism and in business settings like live events, meetings and conferences.

Or, perhaps you'd like to work in government alongside foreign ministers or for international organisations such as the United Nations. There are a variety of opportunities within the industry which keeps the work exciting and challenging.





## A service in demand

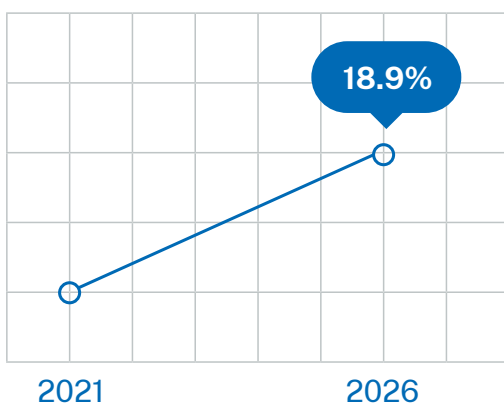
NSW is one of the most culturally and linguistically diverse states in the world.



As NSW communities become even more culturally and linguistically diverse, the language services industry has experienced growth at a rapid rate.

Skilled interpreters and translators are in high demand as they are essential in ensuring people who do not have a strong understanding of English have access to government services and programs.

### Projected job growth



Source: National Skills Commission. Social Professionals

## Flexible working conditions

As a language services professional, you can work in the industry on a permanent or casual basis. This allows you to undertake work in interpreting and/or translation as your main career, or have the freedom to specialise in another field and undertake freelance interpreting and/or translation as secondary employment.

Working as an interpreter and/or translator allows you to be in control of your own workload at any time. You decide when you would like to work, and what type of jobs you will take. You will have the flexibility to balance assignments with other work, study or family commitments.

Most interpreters and translators are allocated assignments based on their language/s, specialisations, and National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) credentials.

### Interpreting and/or translation as secondary employment provides you the opportunity to:

- Maintain your valuable language skills and cultural knowledge
- Have an additional source of income
- Give back to your community
- Use the skill set language services professions develop across other professions



## Technology increasing demand

While many people think that computers are going to replace interpreters and translators, this is not the case. In fact, machine translation is one of the drivers of growth in the industry.

Computers cannot interpret the meaning of a text, they can only read the words and translate them based on dictionaries and algorithms, therefore professional interpreters and translators are still very much in demand.



# Your career in language services

## How do I get there?



### Refine your language skills and cultural knowledge

- Be fluent in English and at least one other language.
- Demonstrate intercultural competency.



### Find the right course

- Complete formal training in interpreting and/or translation that is NAATI endorsed.



### Gain experience

- Engage in mentoring, volunteering and work experience opportunities to give you the chance to better understand the job, improve your employability skills and build a network in the industry.



### Build up your skills

- Aspiring interpreters and translators need to conduct research ahead of each assignment.
- Work across various fields to develop specialised knowledge, including terminology and jargon.
- Build a high level of general knowledge and of current events across different fields.



### Become certified with NAATI

- Pass a certification test with NAATI.
- For languages that do not currently have testing available, NAATI offers a credential called Recognised Practising.
- A NAATI certification enables interpreters and translators to show to clients and agencies their ability quickly and easily.



### Join the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT)

- Join AUSIT - the national association for the translating and interpreting profession. Their members adhere to a strict Code of Ethics and undertake continuous professional development.
- Attend AUSIT events and training workshops throughout the year as part of ongoing professional development.



### Register with a Language Service Provider

- Register with Multicultural NSW, as the largest employer of interpreters and translators in NSW.
- Start taking face-to-face, telephone, remote or translation assignments.

For recruitment enquiries please email

✉ [recruitmentls@multicultural.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recruitmentls@multicultural.nsw.gov.au)

Learn more



[multicultural.nsw.gov.au/interpreters-and-translators-roles](https://multicultural.nsw.gov.au/interpreters-and-translators-roles)

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#### Acknowledgement of Country

Multicultural NSW proudly acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and waterways of this State. We pay respect to the elders past, present and future of all Aboriginal nations. As Australia's First People, they have an important role to play in shaping the identity of our State.

