

Translation & Interpretation Entrance Exam

The [entrance exam](#) is a written assessment of your language skills in English and Spanish. In particular, it tests your knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension and spelling, including proper use of diacritics (e.g. accent marks in both languages) and assesses your ability to complete college-level coursework. Select courses may be taken prior to passing the entrance exam, however, admission to advanced courses and obtaining either certificate requires its successful completion.

What level of English and Spanish do I need?

Our programs are designed for individuals who are already completely bilingual in Spanish and English as determined by a Pass grade on the program's [entrance exam](#). "Completely bilingual" signifies written fluency and an ability to complete second year college-level studies in both languages. All students who pass the written entrance exam are eligible to enroll in the [Specialized Certificate in Translation](#) and the [Professional Certificate in Translation and Interpretation](#).

What does the exam evaluate?

The exam is a written assessment of your language skills. In particular, it tests your knowledge of vocabulary, grammar, reading comprehension, and spelling (which includes proper use of diacritics, e.g. accent marks) in both languages.

How do I prepare for the entrance exam?

No preparation materials are available however, past students found these preparation suggestions helpful:

- Read diverse sources in both languages and pay close attention to correct spelling, accents, dialect, slang, etc.
- Translate newspaper articles and excerpts from books with published translations and compare versions for accuracy.
- Study vocabulary from works in English and Spanish at the university level.

May I use a dictionary during the exam?

Yes. One paper dictionary is permitted for the exam. Electronic dictionaries may not be used during the exam nor may dictionaries be shared.

Who grades the entrance exam? Can I keep the graded exam?

The exam is graded by a qualified, bilingual practitioner in the field of translation and interpretation. Results are available within three business days of the exam to allow adequate time to enroll in courses. Students do not have access to graded exams.

What if I do not pass the entrance exam?

Most importantly, don't panic. About half of the students who take the entrance exam do not pass it on their first attempt. If you do not pass the exam, you may retake it as many times as you like after a suggested three month waiting period. During this time, we recommend students engage in self-study and practice, enroll in an advanced English or Spanish writing and grammar course, or enroll in one of these required program courses:

- [Introduction to Translation](#)
- [Introduction to Interpretation](#)
- [Spanish to English Translation I](#)
- [English to Spanish Translation I](#)

When is the entrance exam offered?

The entrance exam is offered once per quarter. Students can only take the exam on the scheduled date each quarter.

When Will I Find Out If I Passed?

Results are available within three business days of the exam to allow adequate time to enroll in courses.

Have More Questions?

Please take a look at the [certificate page](#) for additional information, or feel free to [contact us](#) with specific questions about the program.