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## Bridging The Gap/BTG Course Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is the language proficiency test? This is an online oral exam to assess the speaker's second language skill level. The test takes 30-60 minutes to complete and can be taken in our office between 10 and 4 on weekdays or on the weekend if necessary, with special arrangements. There will be an extra fee of \$35, if weekend testing is required
- 2. When will I receive the certificate? Once you complete the course and pass the written final exam, your name will be sent to the Cross Cultural Health Care Program in Seattle, Washington. After approximately 1-2 weeks we will receive your printed certificate. You may pick up this document at our office or we can mail it to you.
- 3. When do the classes meet? 1WTT Offers a variety of times to take these classes: over weekends, one full week, a month of Saturdays! We can teach just for your group, too a minimum of 9 students is required (we may add up to 3 students, if agreeable).

The 40 hr course is taught in 5 full-day classroom sessions, The 64 in 8 full days.



The locations vary by demand. Our classes from April through November will be taught at Candlewood Suites off 144<sup>th</sup> and I-25 in Thornton, CO. We can bring our course to your location by appointment.

- 4. How many students are in each class? The minimum number is 9 students and the maximum is 24.
- 5. Is the class taught in English? Yes, all the course content is taught in English.
- 6. What is taught? Communication challenges: how the interpreter can best navigate in his/her role through the differing roles: the linguistic, cultural, speech differences and the confusing, complex and systemic challenges often presented- in a proper way for all parties involved. This is taught by utilizing the multiple code of ethics for medical interpreters, as the standards of practice required and recognized to perform as a professional medical interpreter.

This is accomplished through daily study, discussion and true-to-life interactive exercises that employ theory into real-life interpreting practice. The BTG course has a working foundation of medical terminology, anatomy and physiology of the different body systems. Including common procedures, testing and specialists specific for each body system the interpreter may come across in their work.

The goal is for the interpreter to be able to navigate through a hospital or healthcare system. The resources provided (includes a 335 page book for the 40 hour course and 445 for the 64 hour course) are excellent and establish a foundation for furthering vocabulary development and a gateway for greater study and understanding of the vast medical field.

Videos are utilized to facilitate learning, in addition to the 335 page book for the 40 hour course and the 445 page book for the 64 hour course. There are excellent study guide tools and tips to aid in learning, such as the medical word roots, prefixes, suffixes and general information. Multiple methods are used to teach to help learners of all learning styles.

Professional interpreting concepts are also taught and practiced routinely in class: basic professional habits, practices and critical core skills like how to manage the flow of an interpretation session, culture, cultural "bumps" and cultural competency. There is more information about the profession in general.

The 64 hour course includes information about the Health Care disparities in the United States: it delves deeper into the Cultural Disparities for the LGTBQIA populations. For the first time; there are several in-depth sections to support the interpreter in working in behavioral health settings; with extensive resource information for a lifetime of reference.



Coursework will be assigned and completed in the classroom across all days of instruction. Homework will be assigned, and participants should plan on spending 1-2 hours per class day completing homework and reviewing outside of the class

- 7. Who is the instructor? Carolina Weaver, RN, BSN, teaches the course, with over 30 years of medical and interpreting work experience supporting her instruction. She also has 12 years dedicated experience in the behavioral health field, including Psychiatric ICU experience and drug and alcohol rehabilitation, which is also covered in the course. She will be joined in summer 2019 by energetic Agi Oseth, MBA, an excellent interpreter and experienced BTG instructor.
- 8. Where is the class held? Most of the time it will be held at the Candlewood Suites: 15362 Lincoln Way, Thornton, CO 80023. Some classes may be split between the Thornton location and a location in the Denver Tech area; to alternate driving distance for southern and northern students.

We also offer locations in South/Central Denver and occasionally in Colorado Springs upon demand. We also teach TCI/The Community Interpreter: which we can teach in the Ft. Collins area, the Western Slope or Alamosa area.

Our default location in Thornton/North Denver is convenient to Boulder, Wyoming, DIA, and accessible from many gateways. If you prefer to be on-site – to allow for more study and relaxing time instead from a distance, you can reserve a room at a discounted price. For the Candlewood Suites: simply reference our name: 1 World Translation, Inc.

The suites at Candlewood have full kitchens, laundry facilities so it feels just like home and go for \$119.00 for us only. Enjoy great savings on food costs if you are up to cooking and not eating out. It also provides the convenience of staying at the class property. There are other options like *Airbnb* and there is another hotel nearby with kitchens for less- we can recommend: The Cottonwood Suites in Broomfield, just to the west, also near 120<sup>th</sup> Ave.

\*\*We are open to holding our class in Colorado Springs and other locations in the Denver area, on demand and if enough students: 9-12 must be guaranteed. If a meeting room can be provided, this is quite helpful in keeping costs down. Call us.

- 9. What is the cost of the course? The cost of the course is \$510 for the 40 hour course and \$710. For the 64 hour course. This fee covers the course in its entirety: text and materials, instruction, testing, snacks beverages and the certificate. The language proficiency test is not included and must be taken first (\$100).
- 10. When do I have to make payment? <u>A \$150 non-refundable deposit is due after you</u> recieve results of the proficiency results or earlier, if you feel confident about your test. We can give you a book when you come for the test if you do pay the deposit to reserve your seat. We ask that you begin studying/reading the first few chapters!



Full payment is ideally due before the course begins; however, it is possible to arrange for a payment plan for a small additional administrative fee.

- 11. Can I make payments or payment arrangements? You can arrange to divide your tuition up in 3 separate payments if you wish- or more- up to 4-6 months, provided we have a credit card on file. The deposit must be made before class begins. The second payment is due on the first day of class and the third payment is due by arrangement within 60 days of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of class. There may be an extra cost to cover administrative costs for the payment plan. Contact us for details.
- 12. What if I don't pass the final exam? You will have the opportunity to retake the exam (free of charge). If you do not pass the exam, you may re-take the course at a highly discounted rate. This has never happened before. You will have the book and language testing done. We cannot provide a letter stating that you attended the course- it is not permitted by the course authors.
- 13. Will this course make me a certified medical interpreter? Bridging the Gap is the most requested certificate for medical interpreters. Upon completion of this course, you may call yourself a trained qualified medical interpreter, but not a certified interpreter.

Only interpreters who have passed one of the two national certification exams can use the credentials of **Certified Medical Interpreter** (CMI) or Certified Healthcare Interpreter (CHI). For more information on certification please visit the web sites for the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) and the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (NBCMI). You will be a certificate holder.

14. How do I pay for the course? You can pay by cash, money order, cashiers check or credit card. We can take credit card payments by phone or at our office. We accept: Visa, MasterCard & American Express (the latter with a 2.5% added charge). A credit card is required for those on the payment plan option.

We look forward to sharing our knowledge and expertise in this wonderful field. We are also hiring!!

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