



New Mexico Commission for Deaf & Hard of Hearing

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CASLI Exam FAQs

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The Center for the Assessment of Sign Language Interpretation (CASLI) is the organization responsible for administering the testing that the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) uses to recognize interpreters as nationally certified. CASLI has recently gone through an exam transition and is now offering new national certification exams. Some interpreters may feel overwhelmed by the number of changes that have occurred to the testing process. As such, we have compiled answers to our community's frequently asked questions and hope this will help clarify what tests are currently available and what the exam process looks like. Links to additional information and resources can be found at the end of this fact sheet.

Questions from both Deaf and Hearing Interpreters

What exams is CASLI currently offering? CASLI is currently offering knowledge and performance exams under the new testing system for both Deaf and hearing interpreters. The CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam (CGKE) is a two-part exam that both Deaf and hearing interpreters must take and pass before registering for a performance exam. The Deaf Interpreter Performance Exam (DIPE) and the Hearing Interpreter Performance Exam (HIPE) are now both available. Please note that the HIPE is still in the beta testing period which means results may take several months. Both the NIC Knowledge Exam and the CDI Knowledge Exam were retired in December 2020. The NIC Performance and Interview Exam was retired in May 2022.

If I am already certified with RID can I take any of the new CASLI exams? No, if you already have your certification through RID you will not be eligible to take any of the new CASLI exams.

How do I register to take an exam? You can find instructions for setting up a CASLI Exam account here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CsH584ELzplCyb8vqngdzFC1_8h2tE-r/view. You can also check out our "Step by Step Guide for CASLI Testing Registration" fact sheet under Resources for Interpreters here: www.cdhh.nm.gov/resources/fact-sheets/.

I've already taken the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam, when will I get my results? The Generalist Knowledge Exam has now finished beta testing. Scores will be sent to the testing candidate within 10 business days of taking the exam.

What does the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam look like? The CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam (CGKE) contains two separate bilingual tests in both American Sign Language and written English. There is no longer a distinction between exams for hearing or Deaf interpreters – everyone takes the same tests. The first test is The Fundamentals of Interpreting Exam designed to test a candidate's knowledge on how interpreters work practically in assignments. The questions are multiple choice, and candidates must choose the best

answer to fit the question. Once candidates complete this test, they will be given a 30 minute break before beginning The Ethics and Cultural Responsiveness Exam. This test is designed to analyze how candidates make choices while working when presented with an ethical or cultural dilemma. Candidates will be shown a video example of an interpreting scenario where the interpreter must make a decision. Candidates will be given options on how to respond, then depending on the chosen response they will be presented with a new video of the same scenario with the results of the decision chosen. There are multiple resulting choices shown for each scenario before continuing to the next question. Practice exams are available through your CASLI Exam account.

What will my credentials be called under the new test? Although the name of the exams have changed, NIC (National Interpreter Certification) and CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter) are still the appropriate terminology.

What does all of this mean for my testing cycle process clock? As you receive your new testing scores your testing cycle expiration will be updated on your account within 60 days. For more information on how to calculate your remaining time, see here: www.casli.org/after-the-exam/exam-results-and-retakes/testing-process-cycles-tpcs/. If you need assistance calculating your remaining time, please contact CASLI at testing@casli.org.

What if I do not pass the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam? If you do not pass the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam, you must wait for a 3-month period from your testing date before you are eligible to apply and repay for the exam again. Because the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam includes two separate tests, if you pass one test but not the other you are only required to retake the one you did not pass. Your testing cycle will begin from the date you pass your first test regardless of if both are passed.

What if I do not pass the Performance Exam? If you do not pass your performance exam you are required to wait 6 months from your testing date before you are eligible to apply and pay for a retake exam. You will add a retake exam to your account following the same steps of purchasing and adding a test to your account as you did for the first time you took the exam.

Questions from Deaf Interpreters

What are the education requirements for CDI candidates? As of May 17, 2021, CDI candidates will be required to hold a Bachelor's degree or follow the updated Alternative Pathway. More information can be found on RID's website <https://rid.org/certification/available-certifications/>.

What if I already took and passed the CDI Knowledge Exam? If you took and passed the CDI Knowledge Exam you will be required to complete the Bridge Plan. This includes completing a learning module that bridges the gap between the prior knowledge exam and the current performance exam. This module can be taken at home. You will also be required to take the Ethics and Cultural Responsiveness Exam (also being called the Gap test), which can be scheduled at the same time as your Deaf Interpreter Performance Exam.

Questions from Hearing Interpreters

What if I already took and passed the NIC Knowledge Exam? If you took the NIC Knowledge Exam and there is still time on your testing clock, you will only be required to take The Ethics and Cultural Responsiveness Exam (also being called the Gap test). This can be scheduled at the same time as your Hearing Interpreter Performance Exam. However, if you took the NIC Knowledge Exam but the time on your testing clock has run out you will be required to take both Generalist Knowledge Exams before taking the Hearing Interpreter Performance Exam.

When can I expect to receive my HIPE score?

The HIPE is currently in its beta testing period. Scores are being released as they are ready. As of December 2023 the HIPE scores through March 2023 have been released. They anticipate finishing rating all tests taken in 2023 in May 2024. For updates on where CASLI is in their rating process please see their news page at www.casli.org/category/news/.

Further Information and Resources:

- CASLI Contact Information: testing@casli.org or 571-257-4761 (VRS/VP)
- Updates from CASLI: www.casli.org/category/news/
- CASLI Breakdown of Exams and Certifications: www.casli.org/getting-started/about-casli-exams/exams-for-rid-certification-eligibility/
- CASLI Exam Eligibility Requirements: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cu1-vMSuwtfJLgoXM3-D0mtltq6llgCS/view>
- Study Guide and Prep Information for the CASLI Generalist Knowledge Exam: https://drive.google.com/file/d/13VBEjbrGmQuqHb_fhT0ES_vqMZlhwY8i/view
- CASLI Exam Transition Information: www.casli.org/exam-preparations/exam-iteration-transition-information-bridge-plans/
- CASLI Exam Results and Retakes: www.casli.org/after-the-exam/exam-results-and-retakes/
- CASLI Frequently Asked Questions: www.casli.org/casli-frequently-asked-questions/
- RID Certification Process: <https://rid.org/rid-certification-overview/available-certification/>