

### **Continuing Education Units**

Certification maintenance is based upon Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The CEU is an internationally standardized measurement: ten (10) contact hours of participation equals 1.0 CEU. The traditional CEU is related to instructional hours; the most common module of educational experience, and the 60-minute clock hour is used in making calculations. Only completed instructional hours are considered in assigning CEUs. Lunch hours, socials and break times between sessions do not earn CEUs. This differs from brief breaks within a single presentation that is considered standard procedure. (Section XI) Non-traditional educational experiences must be assessed to determine how to assign CEUs in a manner consistent with the concept and philosophy of the traditional CEU. In these cases, CEUs are usually not awarded at a 1:1 ratio. Please see Appendices for a chart of suggested ratios for nontraditional activities.

### **Maintenance of Certification**

To maintain certification, each CMP participant must earn eight (8) CEUs every four (4) years. The beginning of each member's first cycle is dependent on the date they earned their first generalist certificate. Subsequent 4-year cycles will run consecutively for as long as the member chooses to maintain their certification.

### **Additional Generalist Certificate – Cycle Options:**

Certified Interpreters earning additional generalist certificates will be given the option to begin a new cycle. If they opt to begin a new cycle, the CEUs earned in the previous cycle will not be carried into the new cycle. CEUs earned during the new cycle will serve to maintain all certificates held.

### **Specialist Certificate – CEU Requirement:**

To maintain any Specialist Certificate, at least two (2) of the six (6) CEUs which must be in the Professional Studies category are required to be within the field of specialization, effective with the beginning of the next new CMP cycle (Motion C2001.06).

### **Loss of certification:**

Any active certified member not satisfying the requirements of the Certification Maintenance Program for their specialty certificate will lose their specialty certification. They may retain their regular certification if they have otherwise satisfied their CEU requirements by the end of his/her cycle will cease to be certified. (Motion C99.21)

### **Extension Requests:**

RID will consider granting a one-year extension of a Certification Maintenance Program

cycle upon written request by the participant. The request and accompanying documentation must be submitted prior to the end of the participant's cycle. Requests will be considered and granted based on the inability to accrue the required number of Continuing Education Units for the following reason: A sudden and unforeseeable, traumatic, catastrophic or incapacitating, life-altering event that disrupts the life of the certified member or an immediate family member for a considerable amount of time. An extension can be granted only once in the participant's lifetime. Please note that the granting of an extension does not delay the beginning of the participant's new cycle. Once sufficient credits have been earned to complete the extended cycle, all subsequent credits earned will be applied to the participant's new cycle.

### **RID Membership Options:**

- a. **Inactive:** This category is available for certified members who are not currently interpreting due to a life altering event or activity. For more information, contact Member Services.
- b. **Retired:** This category is available for certified members who are retired from interpreting and are over 55 years of age. A member must be currently certified to change to this category. For more information, contact Member Services.

### **CONTENT AREAS**

The Content Areas in which Interpreters/ Transliterators can receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are divided into two categories: **Professional Studies** (linguistic and cultural studies; theoretical and experiential studies; specialization studies) and **General Studies** (human service and leadership; general knowledge studies). In determining the Content Areas, the RID PDC considered the recommended standards in the curriculum section of the Conference of Interpreter Trainers' (CIT) Educational Standards Package.

#### **A. Professional Studies**

Professional Studies contain content that directly affects the field of interpreting/ transliterating. A minimum of 6.0 CEUs must be completed in this section during each Certification Maintenance Cycle. Examples of Professional Studies topics include, but are not limited to:

1. Linguistic and Cultural Studies: The study of any language or linguistic system, as well as general cultural studies, and the study of any specific culture. Examples include:
  - Advanced English vocabulary and grammar development
  - Linguistics of ASL
  - Linguistics of English
  - Language variation
  - Sociolinguistics

- Deaf culture
- American culture
- Minority group dynamics
- Cross-cultural studies
- Multi-cultural studies, etc.

2. Theoretical and Experiential Studies: The process of interpreting/transliterating through the application of systems of principles, philosophy, ideas or concepts. Examples include:

- History and issues in interpretation and transliteration
- Theory of interpretation and transliteration
- Skills development in interpretation and/or transliteration
- Skills development in consecutive and simultaneous interpretation
- Professional ethics, etc.

3. Specialization Studies : Building skills in more narrowly focused areas within the broader field of interpreting or transliterating. Documentation must be present detailing the way in which the activity relates to the development of interpreting skills in that particular field or setting.

Examples include aspects of:

- Educational settings
- Rehabilitation settings
- Legal settings
- Medical or mental health settings
- Substance abuse recovery programs
- Technical areas
- Ethics as applied in specialized settings, etc.

## **B. General Studies**

General Studies include topics that enhance the interpreter/transliterating's general knowledge base. There are no minimum requirements for CEUs in this category, however, only two (2) of the eight (8) required CEUs will be counted toward certification maintenance.