



Western Australian Language Services Policy 2020

Interpreting and translating sector Codes of Ethics

To maintain confidentiality, accuracy and impartiality, suitably tertiary qualified and/or **National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI)** credentialed interpreters and translators must observe the industry's professional codes of practice.

The NAATI credential processes, and tertiary qualifications in interpreting and translating, place strong emphasis on practitioner ethics.

First-time applicants to NAATI must pass an **intercultural and ethical screening test** before becoming eligible to sit a credential test.

Practitioners who are members of professional associations are also bound to adhere to relevant codes of ethics, and those who are also Western Australian public sector employees must adhere to the **Public Sector Commission Code of Ethics**.

The two codes of ethics relevant to Australia's interpreting and translating sector are those governed by the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT) and the Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association (ASLIA).

AUSIT Code of Ethics

The AUSIT Code of Ethics is recognised as setting the standards for the ethical conduct of interpreters and translators in Australia and New Zealand. It has two parts:

- a Code of Ethics that outlines the general principles that govern the practice
- a Code of Conduct that explains how those principles are to be applied. There are also separate sections on conduct issues specific to the role of an interpreter or translator.

The codes were updated in 2012 "in recognition of the significant development and diversification of the field in Australia, and the growing attention to ethical issues in interpreting and translation around the world. International recognition of the status of interpreters and translators becomes even more important as they achieve greater prominence through media, international affairs and local political issues, attracting increased scrutiny of their standards."

ASLIA Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Professional Conduct

Members of ASLIA are required to abide by the ASLIA Code of Ethics and follow the Guidelines for Professional Conduct as a condition of membership of the association. The code articulates ethical principles, values, and standards of conduct to guide all practitioners in their pursuit of professional practice.

Further reading

Office of Multicultural Interests

- **Western Australian Language Services Policy 2020 and Guidelines**