

World Languages & Cultures

Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Instructions

All majors and minors graduating with **Teaching Licensure** or **Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Endorsements** must complete an Oral Proficiency Interview. As a requirement in the State of Utah, Utah State University includes this mandate in the Secondary Education STEP program.

To prepare for the OPI, please watch the following videos:

- ❖ Four Phases of the OPI-- <https://youtu.be/dfMQU8-Mps>
- ❖ How to Pass the OPI-- <https://youtu.be/T6Qv32xInhs>

Utah State University administers the Oral Proficiency Interview through a third-party company called **Language Testing International**. LTI allows students to interview from any location, as long as you have a web-cam or web-cam computer and a land-line phone in a quiet room with no distractions—they will proctor each interview.

A **controlled, quiet room means...** no language papers, books, or other electronic devices are allowed in the room. When you are almost ready to take the OPI, about two weeks before your target date, you must complete the following:

1. Schedule an OPI online through Language Testing International.
2. A link containing contact information for the web-cam proctor and the land-line phone will be sent to you.
3. Be prepared **at least 20-minutes** early before you call your tester. Check your web-cam equipment, your phone connection, and any other necessary technology. *Note that you will be required to complete verification steps and necessary paperwork prior to your OPI, so it is best to be early and be prepared.
4. Call the proctor phone number on your land-line phone **2 minutes** before your scheduled time. The test will last approximately **30-minutes**.

Cost: The OPI costs \$165. LTI will charge approximately \$145 for the test and \$20 for the web-based proctor fee. Participants will be asked to pay when they complete an application online.

Scheduling a Test: Students are responsible for setting up their own date/time to take the OPI. This can be done online at <http://languagetesting.com/> (Follow the Directions Below)

- ❖ Hover over “Sign-In” at the top right-hand corner, and select “Test Candidates”
 - Click “Create an Account” at the top of the Sign In page if you are a new user

- ❖ Once an account has been created, hover over “Certifications for Individuals” on the top toolbar, and select “Take a Test.”
 - Next, choose your Language of Study (Spanish, French, German, Mandarin)
- ❖ Once you’ve selected your Language, choose “ACTFL OPI” listed as the first option on the list to measure your Speaking. ***Do not select “ACTFL OPIc”***
- ❖ Now, schedule your 30 min OPI for your Time zone, and for first and second ideal dates/times.
- ❖ Once a day/time has been selected and scheduled, the next page will require you to pay the \$165 fee. You will then be sent a confirmation to your email with your testing day and time. Be sure to save this email.

Once these steps have been complete, your OPI will be scheduled and ready for you to participate! **Note: Students must save their score, and present their score to the Language Academic Advisor when applying for the STEP Program.**

Teaching Majors & Teaching Minors: The School of Teacher Education and Leadership requires a language teaching major to pass with an Advanced Low Level prior to admission into the Secondary Education STEP program. However, a score of Advanced Mid-Level is required to teach in a Dual Language Immersion (DLI) classroom and receive the endorsement.

Additional Information: You are welcome to speak with your Academic Advisor or Faculty Advisor to get advice on how you can improve and achieve the required level if you must retake the OPI. If your score is too low, and you need to take the OPI again:

- ❖ The ACTFL policy requires each test taker to wait at least **90 days between** occurrences of the ACTFL OPI.
- ❖ If you need to retake the OPI prior to 90 days, you may request a one-time waiver. Students should take the OPI well before the **STEP program deadline** of May 1st for the Fall and October 1st for the Spring.
- ❖ You may retake the test more than once, but you must wait the required 90 days before rescheduling.

Academic Advisor Contact Info:

If you have questions about the OPI or anything related to the STEP program requirements for your language, you may contact Brendan Lee, Academic Advisor for World Languages and Cultures.

Brendan Lee, M.A. | O: 435-797-8029 | E: Brendan.lee@usu.edu

You may schedule an appointment with Brendan at <https://chassadvising.usu.edu>