

Contract, Procurement and Real Estate Services (CPRES)

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Request for Applications (RFA) Addendum

ADDENDUM DATE ADVERTISED: February 28, 2026

ORIGINAL DATE ADVERTISED: February 10, 2026

Title: Language Access Program: Community Language Services

Number: 2026ODIR973RFA

Due Date: No later than March 12, 2026

Contact: Kishan Scipio, cpres-ODIR@kingcounty.gov

This Addendum provides the following clarifications and additional information about the referenced solicitation.

1. I am an individual working under my own business, why do I need insurance?

Individuals applying for this opportunity have the choice to be evaluated as either an individual or a corporation. If you elect to be paid as a corporation you will be paid at your company's rate and required to adhere to all of the requirements for agencies; if you choose to be paid as an individual you will be paid at the standard contract rate for all efforts under this program and will be prioritized for assignments as needed.

2. For agencies, is there a maximum allowable rate or expected range?

No, Agencies will submit their rates during contract negotiations. Agencies can bill at their rate but priority for the work will always be for individual contracted language providers.

3. Can you share historical volume data?

In 2024 we processed 1,457 projects that included 39 different languages. In 2025 we processed 978 projects that included 40 languages

4. Is there a list of current contractors and the languages they cover, to show where new capacity is most needed?

We cannot share contractor names and the languages most needed are reflected on the RFA: *"The purpose of this Request for Applications (RFA) is to 1) fill the gap of emerging language gaps in our current pool of contracted languages which include; Somali, Tigrinya, Khmer, Samoan, Marshallese, Punjabi, Hindi, Arabic (standard), French, Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese (Traditional and Simplified), and Vietnamese 2) to fill emerging language needed for urgent short-term FIFA event translations with reliable days available to work June 15 – July 5, 2026 and 3) interpretation for Spanish, ASL, Black ASL. These experienced Contractors will use lived experience and connection to their local communities to provide language access services as detailed in this RFA. Services of Contractors may be requested by King County on an As-Needed Basis, and therefore no compensation to the Contractor is guaranteed. Contractors are not considered King County Employees"*.

5. Are specific certifications required for medical or legal interpretation (e.g., CMI, CHI, court certification)?

We accept certification through DSHS or another accredited agency for medical interpretation services. We do not provide legal interpretation.

This Addendum will be provided in alternative formats upon request.

6. Are translators and interpreters required to be U.S.-based?

All contracted partners for this work are required to be US based, and interpreters must be local and available for in-person events.

7. For the FIFA World Cup 26 period, approximately how many assignments or hours are anticipated, and which languages will be in highest demand?

We cannot predict or approximate as we are part of a response team and needs will be assessed on a daily basis during the event; there is no guaranteed number of hours.

8. Are you needing German? I don't see it on the list.

We are not currently recruiting for German language services this language is covered by our current pool of interpreters.

9. Because translations need to be sensitive to culture, do reviewers have enough educational background? Rather than requiring an exam that anyone can do?

In culturally sensitive translation work, educational background and cultural competence matter just as much as language proficiency. We prioritize translators and reviewers who hold recognized accreditation or formal qualifications in translation; as accreditation helps ensure verified language proficiency, professional accountability and demonstrates an understanding of translation standards and ethics. When accreditation is not available, we use an assessment to qualify applicants for language proficiency. All selected applicants start as reviewers so that they learn the process. We also seek continuous feedback from community.

10. What types of documents and authors of documents will be requested for translations, and what type of events?

Most documents are health related and come from PH Seattle King County but some from other KC departments and other Local Health Jurisdictions.

11. Can interpreters only choose to interpret via Zoom?

Yes, but now that we are getting more requests for in-person interpretation, especially for the World Cup event, we prioritize those individuals who can interpret both virtually and in-person.

12. How will you distinguish between the LLC/Corporation vs. Individual applying (for testing)?

The application you submit will determine the evaluation and assessment process for this program. If you are offered a contract as an individual but choose to receive payment as a business entity, you will be required to meet the minimum contracting requirements applicable to agencies. In some cases, the program may also require an assessment for individuals applying as corporations.

13. What about the rates (for individuals versus LLC/Corporations)?

Corporations and agencies may set their own rates in accordance with their business practices during contract negotiations. However, when assigning projects, priority is given to individual translators and reviewers. Agencies are engaged only when individual contractors are not to meet project requirements.