

STUDY TO BECOME AN INTERPRETER

The Victorian Multicultural Commission is offering scholarships to suitable applicants enrolled in the Diploma of Interpreting at RMIT University.

Scholarship recipients receive \$2,000. This amount will cover the cost of course fees for a Government-funded place in the Diploma of Interpreting.

Graduates who complete the course with a grade of 70% or higher will be eligible for NAATI paraprofessional accreditation. The VMC will cover the costs associated with obtaining NAATI accreditation.

WHAT IS AN INTERPRETER?

An interpreter is a person who transfers meaning from one language into another to help people who speak different languages to communicate.

WHICH LANGUAGES CAN I STUDY IN 2010?

- Dari
- Dinka
- Hazaragi
- Tamil

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?

To apply for a scholarship, applicants should be fluent in English and one of the languages listed above, and should be interested in working as an interpreter.

Scholarship applicants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- level of proficiency in English
- communication and interpersonal skills
- commitment to working in the interpreting industry
- community involvement.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a scholarship you must:

- be an Australian citizen, **or**
- have permanent residency, **or**
- hold a Resolution of Status visa.

WHAT WILL THE COURSE REQUIRE?

The Diploma of Interpreting is a one year, part-time course. You will need to attend classes twice a week at RMIT University's City campus. The course will begin in February 2010.

The Diploma of Interpreting will help you develop the skills necessary to become a good interpreter. The course covers subjects such as the role of the interpreter, ethics, English and Languages Other Than English (LOTE).

Students who complete the course with a grade of 70% or higher can obtain National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) paraprofessional accreditation. NAATI is the agency responsible for setting professional standards for interpreting and translating in Australia. NAATI accreditation is the only qualification officially accepted for interpreters and translators in Australia.

WHAT KIND OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE FOR INTERPRETERS?

Many graduates of the Diploma of Interpreting have found employment as interpreters for agencies such as VITS LanguageLink, TIS National, ONCALL and All Graduates, providing interpreting services to different client organisations.

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1 – Apply to RMIT University for the Diploma of Interpreting

Complete a 'Direct Application Form', which can be downloaded from the RMIT University website: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/applications/forms#direct or obtained from the RMIT Info Corner by calling (03) 9925 2260.

Include the following information on page four of the Direct Application Form:

- enter C5116 as the Program Code
- enter Diploma of Interpreting as the Program Name
- enter the language you are applying for under Plan Name.

Fill out a separate Direct Application Form for each language you apply for. Send your completed form to RMIT University at the address given on the form.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 7 JANUARY 2010

STEP 2 – Apply to the Victorian Multicultural Commission for a scholarship

Complete the attached scholarship application form. Send your application form and your CV to the Victorian Multicultural Commission at the following address:

Interpreter Scholarship Program
Victorian Multicultural Commission
GPO Box 4698
Melbourne VIC 3000

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 7 JANUARY 2010

STEP 3 – Attend an interview: If you are accepted by RMIT University into the Diploma of Interpreting, you may be contacted by the Victorian Multicultural Commission for an interview to determine your suitability for a scholarship.

STEP 4– Sit and intake test: An intake test will be held at RMIT University on Monday 18 January 2010 from 3-5pm. RMIT will contact you with further details in early January.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The selection of successful scholarship applicants is a competitive process. Enrolment in the Diploma of Interpreting does not guarantee that you will receive a scholarship.

Please note that scholarships will only be awarded if there are enough suitable applicants for the course to proceed.

For more information about the Diploma of Interpreting, contact the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning at RMIT on 9925 2328 or visit their website: www.rmit.edu.au/gsssp

CONTACT US

For more information about the Victorian Multicultural Commission scholarship program, please contact us on the details below.

Victorian Multicultural Commission
Level 3, 3 Treasury Place
Melbourne, 3000
Telephone: (03) 9651 0675
Email: info@vmc.vic.gov.au
Website: www.multicultural.vic.gov.au

APPLICATION continued

Describe your community involvement (for example any volunteer work you do or community groups you are involved with etc).

Please outline additional information to support your application, for example experiences in your country of origin.

How did you hear about the scholarship?

If you are accepted by RMIT into the Diploma of Interpreting, please indicate the times you are available to attend class.

<input type="checkbox"/> Weekday evenings x 2 (5.30–9.30pm)
<input type="checkbox"/> Weekday afternoons x 2 (3.30–7.30pm)
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday and weekday combination

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