

# WONDERING HOW YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS STACK UP?

ACTFL is looking for NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS of  
**ARABIC, CHINESE, ENGLISH,  
FRENCH, ITALIAN, and SPANISH**  
for 15 to 30-minute oral interviews on November 14<sup>TH</sup> and 15<sup>TH</sup>

Volunteers are needed to serve as “interviewees” for OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) workshops taking place during the ACTFL Convention and World Language Expo in November at the Philadelphia Convention Center and Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. All levels of speakers in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian, and Spanish are needed. Novice and intermediate interviews will be conducted on Wednesday, November 14th and advanced and superior interviews on Thursday, November 15th.

This is a great opportunity for language students and educators interested in knowing more about their oral proficiency and the OPI process. **VOLUNTEERS WILL BE PAID \$20.00 PER INTERVIEW.**



INTERVIEW SCHEDULE	
Proficiency Level	Time
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup>	
Novice Low/Mid	10:15 – 10:45
Novice Mid/High	10:45 – 11:30
Novice High/ Inter. Low	2:30 – 3:15
Intermediate Low/Mid	3:30 – 4:15
Intermediate Mid/High	4:15 – 5:00
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15 <sup>TH</sup>	
Inter. High/ Adv. Low	10:45 – 11:30
Advanced Low/Mid	11:30 – 12:15
Advanced Mid/High	1:15 – 2:00
Advanced High/Superior	2:00 – 2:45
Advanced High/Superior	2:45 – 3:30

## HOW TO SIGN UP...

- Take a look at the interview schedule.
- Select the appropriate date and time for your language level.
- Send an email to [thivuong@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:thivuong@sas.upenn.edu) with your name, mobile phone number, language, proficiency level, and time slot.

*Not sure what your proficiency level is? Want more information?*  
**See the reverse of this flyer for further details.**



**ACTFL**  
ANNUAL CONVENTION  
& WORLD LANGUAGES EXPO

**PHILADELPHIA 2012**  
PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION CENTER  
**NOVEMBER 16-18**

MANY LANGUAGES: *One United Voice*

### What is the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview?

The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) is a testing method that measures how well you speak a language by comparing your performance with the criteria described in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines. It is a one-to-one conversation with a real person conducted entirely in the target language that is structured so that you have a chance to provide the very best sample of real communicative language you can produce.

### What happens during the interview?

Through a conversational format, you will be asked to talk about yourself, your interests, your daily routine, etc. The tester may use a variety of direct information questions, or ask for a description, ask you to narrate, or ask for your opinion on a familiar subject. The tester may ask you to take part in a role-play situation intended to find out how well you may be able to handle a real-life situation. You will not be asked to provide details of your personal life or other confidential information.

### Who administers the interview?

A trainee learning how to administer the OPI will conduct the interview.

### Where do I have to go?

Please go to the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown located at 1201 Market Street. A room number will be provided prior to your appointment.

### Do I get paid for volunteering?

Yes! Volunteers will receive \$20.00 cash per interview.

### Why should I volunteer?

As a learner, you'll discover what your oral proficiency level is according to the ACTFL scale. If you're an educator, you'll have the opportunity to see how OPIs are conducted. And you'll receive \$20!

### How do I sign up?

Send an email to [thivuong@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:thivuong@sas.upenn.edu) and indicate your language (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Italian, or Spanish), first and last name, phone number and the appropriate time slot for your proficiency level (see the schedule on the reverse). You may select more than one language and more than one day/time.

### How do I know what my proficiency level is?

Please refer to the general descriptions of below and to the self-assessment to the right.

- Novice: generally are in the first year of study of the language
- Intermediate: might be students in their second or third year of college language study.
- Advanced: are in at least the fourth year of college study with overseas experience, graduate students, non-native speaking faculty or members of the community of a very high level of competence
- Superior: are graduate students, faculty, and members of the community who speak the language on a high, academic level.

### How many volunteers do you need? Is there a deadline to sign up?

Only one interviewee is needed per level for Arabic, Chinese, French, and Italian. Two interviewees are needed per level for English and Spanish. The deadline to sign up is November 2, 2012, but volunteers will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information about ACTFL, please visit [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org).

## LANGUAGE SELF-ASSESSMENT

Please read the following descriptions and choose the one that *best matches* your own language ability.

1. I can communicate on some very familiar topics using words and phrases that I have practiced and memorized. **Novice Low**
2. I can communicate on very familiar topics using a variety of words and phrases that I have practiced and memorized. **Novice Mid**
3. I can communicate and exchange information about familiar topics using phrases and simple sentences, sometimes supported by memorized language. I can usually handle short social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering simple questions. **Novice High**
4. I can participate in conversations on a number of familiar topics using simple sentences. I can handle short social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering simple questions. **Intermediate Low**
5. I can participate in conversations on familiar topics using sentences and series of sentences. I can handle short social interactions in everyday situations by asking and answering a variety of questions. I can usually say what I want to say about myself and my everyday life. **Intermediate Mid**
6. I can participate with ease and confidence in conversations on familiar topics. I can usually talk about what is happening, what happened, and what will happen. I can usually describe people, places, and things. I can handle social interactions in everyday situations, sometimes even when there is an unexpected complication. **Intermediate High**
7. I can participate in conversations, using connected sentences, about familiar topics that go beyond my everyday life. I can talk in some detail about what is happening, what happened, and what will happen. I can describe in some detail people, places, and things. I can handle a familiar situation with an unexpected complication. **Advanced Low**
8. I can express myself fully not only on familiar topics but also on some new concrete social, academic, and professional topics. I can talk about almost any event with great detail and in an organized way. I can confidently handle situations with an unexpected complication. I can sometimes share my point of view in discussions on a number of issues. **Advanced Mid**
9. I can express myself freely and spontaneously, and for the most part accurately, on concrete topics and on some complex issues. I can usually support my opinion and develop hypotheses on topics of particular interest or personal expertise. **Advanced High**
10. I can communicate with ease, accuracy, and fluency. I can participate fully and effectively in discussions on a variety of topics in formal and informal settings. I can discuss at length complex issues by structuring arguments and developing hypotheses. **Superior**