

TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION

BUDGETING STANDARDS FOR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

A side-by-side comparison of pricing factors for translation and interpretation is below.

Translation

Standard rates range from \$0.13-\$0.35 per translated word.

These rates vary depending on:

- Lesser diffused languages (languages requested less frequently) cost more
- Language pair (e.g., English to Spanish vs. Spanish to English)
- Formatting adjustments
- Rush turnaround rates

Additional considerations:

- Character count increases in most translated languages (expansion factor of at least 20%)
- Vendors may charge different rates and have different levels of quality

Interpretation

Interpreters charge from \$80.00-\$160.00 per hour based on a two-hour rate minimum.

These rates vary depending on:

- Interpreter certification level and technical expertise
- Type of interpretation (simultaneous, consecutive, shadow)
- Format of event (conference, meeting, small group)
- Platform (virtual vs. in-person)
- Language pair (e.g., English to Spanish vs. Spanish to English)
- Rush turnaround rates
- 2+ interpreters for > 1 hour of simultaneous interpretation

Other costs to factor in:

- Travel time and mileage
- Use of interpretation equipment and technician
- Evening or weekend hours
- Lesser diffused languages (languages requested less frequently) cost more