Procedures for taking the Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIc)

French, Italian and Spanish

Candidates who wish to enter the M.Ed. teacher preparation program to become Spanish or French teachers must take the Oral Proficiency Interview by Computer (OPIc) and score a proficiency rating of at least “Advanced Low”.

The OPIc is a 15-40 min. semi-direct test of spoken proficiency designed to elicit a sample of speech via recorded, computer-adapted voice prompts delivered over the internet or over the telephone. Completed tests are digitally saved and rated by ACTFL Certified Raters. In the computer version, each test is individualized through the selection of tasks within topic areas tailored to the test taker's linguistic ability, work experiences, academic background and interests. In the telephone version, most tests are delivered as fixed-form tests. The candidate is assessed on his/her ability to speak the standard form of the target language without using another language or slang. The candidate’s overall ability to communicate orally in the target language is the only skill being assessed and not the content of his/her answers, responses or opinions. A full description, and manual, can be found here: http://www.languagetesting.com/oral-proficiency-interview-by-computer-opic

The OPIc (to Advanced) costs $55. Candidates must score at a minimum of Advanced Low for admission to the M.Ed. program at Loyola University Chicago. You may read the descriptions of each proficiency level by clicking on the following link:


(A description of “Advanced Low” is on page 6.)

To register for the OPIc, sign up for an account with Language Testing International at http://tms.languagetesting.com/IndividualSite/ . Please be sure to read the information on finding a proctor for your exam.

Once you create an account, you will be able to view the OPIc test-taker FAQs and the OPIc familiarization manual. From this site, you will be able to “Apply for an ACTFL Test”.

To do so, please follow these directions:

1. Click on “Apply for an ACTFL Test”
2. Click the bubble beside, “General Application”
3. Click on the grey box that appears that says “General Application”
4. Click “Continue” at the bottom of the screen
5. Read through the information that appears and click “Accept and Continue”
6. On the screen that appears, you will need to choose your test. We require a score of Advanced Low for entry into our program. Therefore, we suggest that you register for the “OPIc to Advanced (OPIcA)” test. (If you would like to know if you can score at a more advanced level—Superior—you may take the “OPIc to Superior (OPIcS)” version, but this will cost $10 more.)

Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Sarah Cohen at scohen12@luc.edu