



*U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
International Affairs Directorate
Interpreter Corps*

USCG & AUX Linguist Requests

February 2024



What is the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps?

The Interpreter Corps is a component of the USCG Auxiliary International Affairs Directorate. It operates as a *direct augmentation force of linguists* to fill active-duty USCG billets on temporary duty assignments, often on short notice, as well as to provide language support to AUX Districts with communication or training of its members. International Authority and Scope is set by USCG Deputy Commandant Operations – International Affairs (DCO-I) and USCG AUX Chain of Leadership and Management.

Linguist Qualifications

Available Languages: 55

Number of Linguists: 534

USCG AUX and Language Qualifications:

All deployed or assigned linguists are current in AUX Core Training, completed ICS 100 /700 and Introduction to Risk Management classes, and are in either basically qualified (BQ) or AuxOps (AX) qualified status. All AUX Linguists have a minimum International Language Roundtable equivalent Score of 2+ or higher. That allows *at a minimum* proficient linguist volunteer service, but is not necessarily at a professional level. Interpretation is *consecutive – not simultaneous*, so breaks between sentences or speech is generally required. Specific Subject Matter terminology (legal, radio, marine safety, pollution, fisheries etc) may be limited. Pre-deployment briefings are therefore advised to allow the Linguist some preparation time.

Security Qualification:

All AUX linguists have Operational Support (“OS”) status and undergo annually a Personal Security Investigation by the CG Intel Coordination Center (ICC). This check is a National Crime Information Center-Interstate Identification Index (NCIC-III) search run against databases that have multi-law enforcement agency ties which are used by virtually all law enforcement and military agencies. OS Status is NOT a Security Clearance. It provides authorization For Official Use Only (FOUO) material and data access. Aux Linguists deploying also sign the DHS-NDA. Currently 116 linguists have additionally a full Tier 3 Security Clearance which is SECRET ready and is the same SF-86 investigation that active duty USCG, military and civilian employees undergo. Upon request by CG Order Issuing Authority, additional linguists can be processed for Tier 3 level Security Clearances which takes several months and is subject to budget and DIRAUX approval

Other Qualifications:

Many Auxiliarists may additionally have other USCG AUX or professional qualifications including legal, medical (EMT/ DR / NP), cyber, EMS, culinary, engineering, vessel examination, surface ops, container inspection, marine safety, USCG masters licenses, helm and watch stander, TCO /communications and other qualifications.

Some linguists completed SERE 100, Anti-Terrorism Level1 classes, hold official passports and meet additional COCOM requirements, including vaccinations. Obtaining units generally have to assist in obtaining these additional CG or COCOM qualifications.

ALAC Cards / NEATS Tokens:

Most Auxiliarists will NOT have ALAC cards and carry non-military USCG Auxiliary membership cards. This card must be carried on deployments, but is generally not accepted on its own as a “Real ID” for access to ports or stations. Therefore, real ID driver’s license or passport should additionally be carried by Auxiliarists deploying on USCG orders. Obtaining units should make arrangements with their security posts to list AUX members reporting for duty to facilitate gate access. Those linguists with Tier3 security clearances may be able to obtain ALAC cards at a Rapids office before deploying – time and location permitting. Given the lack of ALAC cards, most linguists will not be able to log into computer work stations to file reports. The Auxiliary is adding NEATS Tokens as an additional computer access method. This may alleviate the current ALAC constraints and allow more productive Auxiliary access to certain CG IT platforms in the near future.

Mission Authorization / Orders:

Auxiliary linguists are authorized *for all USCG operational support missions* other than engaging in direct law enforcement. Support of AUX Districts, DHS and other United States agencies is also authorized.

Mission assignments can be either *in-person or remote*. All in-person deployments require reimbursable or non-reimbursable orders. The linguist services themselves are provided on a volunteer, free-of charge basis.

All reimbursable orders are managed through FSMS / E2 accounts, require POET accounting & funding information from the obtaining units, and are approved through the Auxiliarist’s home DIRAUX office with the help of the Interpreter Corps National Deployment staff. Selection emails from active duty obtaining unit are sufficient to initiate CG orders for AUX Linguists. The CG-2070 form can be used for initial budget approval purposes if needed. The Interpreter Corps deployment staff has Travel Arranger privileges and can assist in making travel arrangements and submitting E2 authorization requests and vouchers for our members.

Potential Physical and Uniform Limitations:

AUX Linguists are civilian volunteers, many of which are retired and therefore available to deploy or assist remotely. AUX Linguists are not required to meet active duty USCG physical fitness, weight, or size requirements. They are not required to take USCG or USCG AUX medical or dental exams - some however have voluntarily undergone these tests and have taken vaccinations when the Order Issuing Authority or COCOM requirements dictated. These additional USCG medical exams and vaccinations are at the expense and coordination of the obtaining unit.

AUX Linguists are advised to obtain periodic health checks and consult with their medical service providers regarding their general fitness to meet anticipated mission needs. They are also advised of the sometimes limited availability or access to higher level medical care or pharmacy services – especially while underway. Members are personally responsible for determining their physical, mental and medical fitness.

Obtaining units should generally be prepared to make some readiness allowances for AUX Linguists depending on the nature of a mission (e.g Jacob's ladders when boarding larger ships). Ship and Station CG operations personnel need to critically assess all conditions when locally deploying AUX members. The AUX Linguist GAR score for a particular mission may for instance differ from that of the other active duty members in the deployment team.

AUX Linguists are not provided uniforms and purchase them at their own expense based on their expected needs. They take pride in wearing the uniform and all try to wear them correctly, but they do not undergo the same level or frequency of inspections as the active duty and many Linguists deploy on very short notice preventing additional purchases. ODU and Tropical Blue Uniforms are mostly available, but obtaining units are requested to make reasonable allowances when needed as they may not have as many changes or all the outerwear for all conditions.

What kinds of missions?

The Interpreter Corps has supported the following types of Missions:

- Cutter and Air In-person deployments to all COCOMS supporting IUU, AMIO, Drug Interdiction, Boundary Line Patrols, Search and Rescue, multi-national training exercises (Tradewinds etc)
- Remote SAR and AMIO support by SatPhone connection to interpret during migrant intake interviews, or for assisting medical and operational personnel during SAR cases
- Conference Support for MEXUS/SEMAR, NSBW/IBWSS, Russia/US JCP, AFRICOM, NAMSI
- Document Translations and Interview support for USCG Investigations, DHS, CBP, USCIS, NOAA
- Aux District support for member training classes, training or qualification document translations, Public Education or Member Training classes, Public Affairs events, Program Visitor and Recruiting events.

How to Request Help:

Preferred method: contact AUX Interpreter Corps by email directly at:

interpretermissions@cgauxnet.us

Aux Interpreter Corps Deployment Staff will expeditiously search and vet all possible resources, assist in readiness planning, obtain CG orders, set up E2 accounts if needed, and act as travel arranger.

Obtaining units can also contact their Auxiliary Liaison Officers, Aux Sector Coordinators or a DIRAUX office, but some will not know how to engage as staffing changes and rotations create knowledge gaps. USCG personnel can also consult the AUXDATA II database after obtaining log-in credentials from the AUX National Help Desk on the Auxiliary National Website:

<https://www.cgaux.org>

OBTAINING UNITS AND AUX DISTRICTS SHOULD INFORM NATIONAL DEPLOMENT STAFF AT ABOVE EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ALL LOCAL OR DIRECT MISSION ASSIGNMENTS FOR TRACKING, LIABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY PURPOSES.

PRE-POST Mission Tasks:

Pre-Deployment Briefings are highly advised as AUX Linguists may not be familiar with the obtaining unit, the subject matter, and often do not have the same level of training as active duty. Boarding scripts, technical or subject matter terminology are best obtained and reviewed by linguist before the mission.

Post mission Hotwash is recommended and at a minimum, obtaining units should provide a written report detailing the nature of the mission, the preparedness and effectiveness of the AUX Linguist, any concerns that may need medical or counseling follow-up, and whether a repeat assignment to similar missions is recommended. This report should be filed to the below email address.

See the AUX Deployment Guide for more details – found on USCG AUX International Affairs Directorate website (<https://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=i-dept>) – or available on request from email address below.

interpretermissions@cgauxnet.us



Recent Examples of Interpreter Deployments and Assignments

WRITTEN TRANSLATIONS

- Sea Scout Training and Recruiting Manuals - *Spanish*
- State National Guard Emergency Management Manuals – *Italian and Spanish*
- Vessel Traffic Safety Agreements between USCG and Canada CG - *French*
- NOAA territorial sea access for Research Vessels in Portuguese and Caribbean Waters - *Portuguese and French*
- Alien Migrant Interdiction Messages and Recordings - Station Miami FL - *Creole*
- Afghan Immigration Documents for Operation Allies Welcome - US State Department – *Dari*
- Conference documents for MEXUS/SEMAR, NAMSI, AFRICOM – *Spanish*
- USCG Criminal / Civil Investigations Documents – *Italian / Turkish / Mandarin / Russian*



VERBAL INTERPRETATION

- AFRICOM Conference support in North Carolina and Botswana – *French*
- MEXUS/SEMAR, NAMSI, Conference support – *Spanish*
- Cutter and USCG Station Support for AMIO and IUU Missions – *Creole / French / Spanish / Indonesian / Korean / Japanese / Mandarin / Vietnamese / etc*
- South-West Border and Operation Vigilant Sentry Key West – *Spanish / Portuguese*
- Huntington Beach CA Anchor Strike - CG Boarding Interviews – *Croatian / Ukrainian*
- M/V Grand Costa d'Avorio USCG Marine Fire Casualty Investigations – *Italian / Tagalog*
- Criminal & Civil CG Investigations - *Vietnamese / Mandarin / Russian / Italian / Tagalog*
- Commercial Vessel Inspections – *Vietnamese*
- SAR Missions: Sea Rescues Phone Support – *Spanish / Mandarin / Vietnamese / Russian*



USCG CUTTERS & PLANES:

- USCGC MUNRO & KIMBALL – South Pacific IUU Missions - *Japanese / Indonesian /Korean / Mandarin / Russian*
- USCGC STRATTON – Alaska Arctic Boundary Line Patrols - *Russian*
- USCGC ACTIVE - East Pacific - Drug Interdiction Patrols - *Spanish*
- USCGC DEPENDABLE /RELIANCE /TAHOMA / MOHAWK – AMIO – *Creole, Spanish*
- Operation Vigilant Sentry UCSG Cutters - AMIO Support – Key West, FL - *Spanish*
- USCG SPENCER – AFRICOM IUU Patrols Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire - *Mandarin*
- HC130 Air Observer and Comms Mission - Alaska Arctic Boundary Line Patrols - *Russian*



AMIO Mission Support (Caribbean)



AFRICOM Conference Support
Botswana



HERCULES C-130 Air Station Kotzebue AK



CGC RELIANCE(Caribbean)



CGC MUNRO North & South Pacific



Vessel Boardings for CG investigation
support



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