

C.I.L.S.: CERTIFICATION OF ITALIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE



CILS – Certification of Italian as a foreign language – is the official degree declaring the degree of linguistic communication in Italian as a foreign language. The Certification CILS is a degree awarded by the University for Foreigners of Siena under the Act 17 February 1992 nr. 204 e in conformity of the agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of 12 January 1993.



Università per Stranieri di Siena

THE CILS LEVELS:

There are 4 CILS levels: Level UNO, Level DUE, Level TRE and Level QUATTRO, identifying a linguistic and communicative competence progressively higher according to the parameters provided in the document of the Council of Europe, Modern Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment. The Common European Framework of Reference (1996). To obtain the Certificate in one of four levels it is necessary to pass an exam composed of five parts, with tests in listening, reading comprehension, analysis of the structures of communication, writing and speaking. During 2001, two will be activated at pre-CILS A1 and A2, for people who need a proof of competence in Italian L2, even if it is at an early stage of the learning process. This is the framework of correspondence between the CILS levels and the levels of the European Framework.

PARTICIPANTS:

The CILS is aimed at Italians living abroad or foreign nationals. CILS è rivolta a cittadini stranieri o italiani residenti all'estero. To take the exam is not necessary to have special qualifications nor is it necessary to have passed a previous CILS exam (lower level). The CILS tests are not tied to specific methods or forms of language courses. Le prove CILS non sono legate a particolari metodi o tipi di corsi di lingua.

EXPENDABILITY OF THE CERTIFICATE:

The CILS is useful to those who study Italian, those who work and study in Italy and those who wish to measure their competence in Italian. Each level of CILS attests an ability to communicate in diverse contexts and situations. The ability of each level of certification for foreigners who wish to undertake activities in relation with Italian institutions (professionally or studying-like) is determined by the document of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Coordinated system of Certificates of Italian for Foreigners, Rome 1998. The levels UNO and DUE guarantee the capacity to communicate with autonomy in everyday situations. The level DUE enables to handle a greater variety of situations, but always typical for everyday life. It is the level which allows enrolling in an Italian University without having to make an Italian language entrance test. The level TRE allows you to communicate in everyday situations and even in formal relations, publicly or at work. Level QUATTRO attests communication skills that a foreigner should have to use the Italian language in a professional environment: for example it is the appropriate level for teaching Italian as L2. Many Italian companies working abroad and want to recruit foreign employees, or foreign companies with commercial ties in

Italy, require that their employees possess a CILS certificate, in accordance with the work they will undertake.

TESTING AND EVALUATION:

All tests are produced and evaluated by the Certification Centre of the University for Foreigners of Siena on the basis of European standards set by the Council of Europe. Each of the five skills is worth 20 points. Each skill requires a minimum score of 11 points. The total maximum possible obtainable score is 100 points. The total minimum required score is 55 points. To obtain the CILS certification the candidate must achieve the minimum score in all the skills. If a candidate obtains the minimum score in only a few skills, the result is capitalized: a successive examination the applicant only needs to take the tests he or she didn't pass previously. The capitalized parts are valid for one year from the first exam.

CILS AWARDS:

The Candidates achieving the highest examination scores may be awarded a prize CILS. The winner of a prize CILS Level ONE, TWO and THREE is exempted from examination fees for the next level; the winner of Level QUATTRO can enrol for free in an Italian language course at 'l'Università per Stranieri di Siena'.

LOCATIONS AND EXAM DATES:

Abroad the exams take place at the Italian Cultural Institutes or other convenient locations. In Italy the examinations are held at the University for Foreigners of Siena and other convenient locations. Exams are held twice a year at the beginning of June and December, contemporarily all over the world.

DATES OF THE NEXT EXAMS:

The enrolments need to be concluded at least 40 days before the exam date.

- 1 December 2011
- 7 June 2012
- 6 December 2012

Enrolment and examination centre in Genoa:

Scuola Tricolore Snc. - Via Edilio Raggio 1/3 – 16124 Genoa – info@scuola-tricolore.it – tel.:010-2512338 – fax.: 010-2517826

Fees:

Level	Fee	Cost for each skill to be repeated
A1	€ 40	€ 12
A2	€ 40	€ 12
UNO B1	€ 90	€ 20
DUE B2	€ 105	€ 23
TRE C1	€ 135	€ 30
QUATTRO C2	€ 160	€ 35

To subscribe, ten days before the exam make and bring photocopies of passport /identity card.

For additional information: www.unisprasi.it