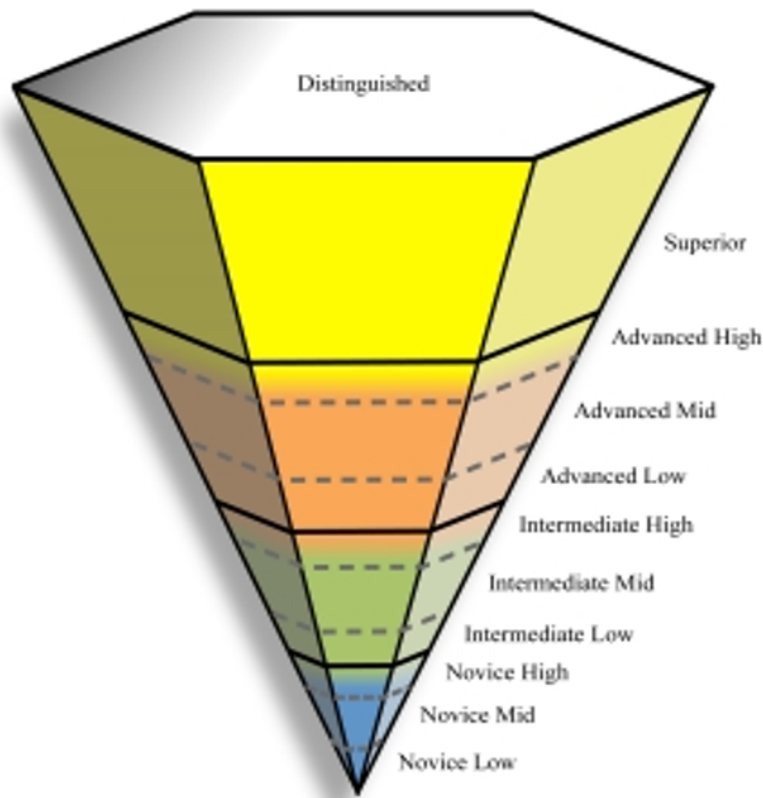


ACTFL Proficiency Levels



Superior/Distinguished: Expert

Can support opinion, hypothesize, discuss topics concretely and abstractly, and handle a linguistically unfamiliar situation.

Advanced: Reporter / Worker

Can narrate and describe in all major time frames and handle a situation with a complication.

Intermediate: Survivor

Can create with language, ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics and handle a simple situation or transaction.

Novice: Parrot

Can communicate minimally with memorized words, formulaic and rote utterances, lists and phrases.



Inverted Pyramid Representing ACTFL Rating Scale with Major Ranges and Sublevels including Distinguished

NCSSFL-ACTFL CAN-DO STATEMENTS
Communication Proficiency Benchmarks



NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED	SUPERIOR	DISTINGUISHED
Interpretive Benchmarks				
I can identify the general topic and some basic information in both very familiar and everyday contexts by recognizing practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences in texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can understand the main idea and some pieces of information on familiar topics from sentences and series of connected sentences within texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can understand the main message and supporting details on a wide variety of familiar and general interest topics across various time frames from complex, organized texts that are spoken, written or signed.	I can interpret and infer meaning from complex, academic and professional texts on a range of unfamiliar, abstract, and specialized issues that are spoken, written or signed.	I can interpret and infer meaning from dense, structurally sophisticated texts on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, with deeply embedded cultural references and colloquialisms and dialects that are spoken, written or signed.
Interpersonal Benchmarks				
I can communicate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, simple sentences and questions.	I can participate in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations on familiar topics, creating sentences and series of sentences to ask and answer a variety of questions.	I can maintain spontaneous spoken, written, or signed conversations and discussions across various time frames on familiar, as well as unfamiliar, concrete topics using series of connected sentences and probing questions.	I can participate fully and effectively in spontaneous spoken, written, or signed discussions and debates on issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, including supporting arguments and exploring hypotheses.	I can interact, negotiate, and debate on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the conversation, using spoken, written or signed language.
Presentational Benchmarks				
I can present information on both very familiar and everyday topics, using a variety of practiced or memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences through spoken, written or signed language.	I can communicate information, make presentations and express my thoughts about familiar topics, using sentences and series of connected sentences through spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver detailed and organized presentations on familiar as well as unfamiliar concrete topics, in paragraphs and using various time frames through spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver extended presentations on hypothetical or abstract issues and ideas ranging from broad general interests to my areas of specialized expertise, with precision of expression and to a wide variety of audiences, using spoken, written or signed language.	I can deliver sophisticated and articulate presentations on a wide range of global issues and highly abstract concepts, fully adapting to the cultural context of the audience, using spoken, written or signed language.

Intercultural Communication Proficiency Benchmarks

Intercultural Investigation Benchmarks				
In my own and other cultures I can identify products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can make comparisons between products and practices to help me understand perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can explain some diversity among products and practices and how it relates to perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can suspend judgment while critically examining products, practices, and perspectives.	In my own and other cultures I can objectively evaluate products and practices and mediate perspectives.
Intercultural Interaction Benchmarks				
I can interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday contexts.	I can interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.	I can interact at a competent level in familiar and some unfamiliar contexts.	I can interact in complex situations to ensure a shared understanding of culture.	I can engage with complexity and pluricultural identities and serve as a mediator between and among cultures.

ACTFL Proficiency Levels

Oral Proficiency Levels in the Workplace

ACTFL Level	ILR	Language Functions	Corresponding Professions/Positions*	Examples of Who Is Likely to Function at This Level
Distinguished	5	Ability to tailor language to specific audience, persuade, negotiate. Deal with nuance and subtlety.	Foreign Service: Diplomat, Contract Negotiator, International Specialist, Intelligence Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Highly articulate, professionally specialized native speakersLanguage learners with extended (17 years) and current professional and/or educational experience in the target culture
	4			
Superior	3	Discuss topics extensively, support opinions, hypothesize. Deal with linguistically unfamiliar situations.	University Language Professor, Financial Services Marketing Consultant, Foreign Area Officer, Lawyer, Judge, Court Interpreter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Well-educated native speakersEducated language learners with extended professional and/or educational experience in the target language environment
Advanced High	2+	Narrate and describe in past, present, and future. Deal effectively with an unanticipated complication.	Physician, Human Resources Communications Consultant, Financial Services Senior Consultant, Quality Assurance Specialist, Marketing Manager, Financial Advisor, Broker, Military Linguist, Translation Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Language learners with graduate degrees in language or a related area and extended educational experience in target environment
Advanced Mid			Banking and Investment Services Customer Service Representative, Fraud Specialist, Account Executive, Medical Interpreter, Patient Advocate, Court Stenographer, Court Interpreter, Human Resources Benefits Specialist, Technical Service Agent, Collections Representative, Estimating Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Heritage speakers, informal learners, non-academic learners who have significant contact with languageUndergraduate majors with year-long study in the target language culture
Advanced Low			2	K–12 Language Teacher, Nurse, Social Worker, Claims Processor, Police Officer, Maintenance Administrator, Billing Clerk, Legal Secretary, Legal Receptionist, 911 Dispatcher, Consumer Products Customer Services Representative, Retail Services Personnel
Intermediate High	1+	Create with language, initiate, maintain, and bring to a close simple conversations by asking and responding to simple questions.	Fire Fighter, Utilities Installer, Auto Inspector, Aviation Personnel, Missionary, Tour Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Language learners following 6–8 year sequences of study (e.g., AP) or 4–6 semester college sequences
Intermediate Mid			Cashier, Sales Clerk (highly predictable contexts), Receptionist	
Intermediate Low	1			
Novice High	0+	Communicate minimally with formulaic and rote utterances, lists, and phrases.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Language learners following content-based language program in Grades K–6
Novice Mid	0			<ul style="list-style-type: none">Language learners following 2 years of high school language study
Novice Low				

*The levels of proficiency associated with each of the positions above are minimal levels of oral proficiency based on task analyses. The minimal levels were determined by subject matter experts from companies and agencies who use ACTFL proficiency tests.

Ohio Immersion Proficiency Targets

Level I and II Difficulty Languages

K-12 Immersion Program Proficiency Targets for Level 1 & 2 Difficulty Languages These include modern alphabetic languages that are taught with a balanced emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking.				
MODE AND SKILL	End of K-2	End of 3-5	End of 6-8	End of 9-12
INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION: Listening	Novice High	Int. Low	Int. Mid	Adv. Low
INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION: Reading	Novice High	Int. Low	Int. Mid	Adv. Low
INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION: Speaking	Novice High	Int. Low	Int. Mid	Adv. Low
PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION: Speaking	Novice Mid	Int. Low	Int. Mid	Adv. Low
PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION: Writing	Novice Mid	Int. Low	Int. Mid	Adv. Low