

Appendix B:

Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center's Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT)

During the 2016 Legislative session section 1007.27(2), Florida Statutes, was revised to include the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center's Defense Language Proficiency Test. The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center provides resident instruction at the Presidio of Monterey in two dozen languages, five days a week, seven hours per day, with two to three hours of homework each night. Courses last from 26 to 64 weeks, depending on the difficulty of the language.

DLIFLC is a multi-service school for active and reserve components, foreign military students, and civilian personnel working in the federal government and various law enforcement agencies. To attend DLIFLC one must be a member of the Armed Forces or be sponsored by a government agency.

DLIFLC students are taught by approximately 1,800 highly educated instructors, 98 percent of whom are native speakers of the languages they teach. Aside from classroom instruction, faculty also write course materials, design tests called the Defense Language Proficiency Test, and conduct research and analysis.

Exam takers are tested on listening and reading comprehension. For the purpose of Credit by Exam passing scores have been set at two levels. A student must meet the minimum passing score of three on both exams in order to receive credit. For students receiving a score of 4-5 on one exam and 3-3+ on the other, credit shall be awarded based on the 3-3+ passing score.

Exam takers can receive scores ranging for 0-5. A brief description of skill mastery for passing score is below.

Score 3: General Professional Proficiency

Listening: Individual is able to understand the essentials of all speech that is delivered with normal clarity and speed.

Reading: Individual is able to read with normal range of speed and with almost complete comprehension of authentic prose material on unfamiliar subjects.

Score 3+: General Professional Proficiency, Plus

Listening: Individual is able to comprehend most content and intent of a variety of forms and styles of speech pertinent to professional needs.

Reading: Individual can comprehend a variety of styles and forms pertinent to professional needs, and rarely misinterprets such texts.

Score 4: Advanced Professional Proficiency

Listening: Individual is able to understand fully all speech with extensive and precise vocabulary, subtleties and nuances in standard dialects on any subject relevant to professional needs.

Reading: Individual is able to relate inferences in the text to real-world knowledge and understand almost all sociolinguistic and cultural references.

Score 4+: Advanced Professional Proficiency, Plus

Listening: Individual displays increased ability to understand extremely difficult and abstract speech as well as understand all forms and styles pertinent to professional needs.

Reading: Individual displays nearly native ability to read and understand extremely difficult or abstract prose, a wide variety of vocabulary, idioms, colloquialisms and slang.

Score 5: Functionally Native Proficiency

Listening: Individual displays comprehension equivalent to that of the well-educated native listener.

Reading: Individual's reading proficiency is functionally equivalent to that of a well-educated native reader.