## american council on the teaching of foreign languages



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## **How Long Does it Take?**

The following ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Ratings represent levels of expected performance for language learners who complete full-time intensive and/or immersion, proficiency-based language training under the supervision of an instructor and with 1-4 students per class.

**Group I Languages:** Afrikaans, Danish, Dutch, French, Haitian Creole, Italian, Norwegian,

Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish

Aptitude for Language Learning

Length of Training	Minimal Aptitude	Average Aptitude	Superior Aptitude
8 weeks (240 hours)	Intermediate Low	Intermediate Mid	Intermediate High
16 weeks (480 hours)	Intermediate High	Advanced Low	Advanced Mid
24 weeks (720 hours)	Advanced Mid	Advanced High	Superior

Group II Languages: Bulgarian, Dari, Farsi, German, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian, Malay, Urdu

Aptitude for Language Learning

Length of Training	Minimal Aptitude	Average Aptitude	Superior Aptitude
16 weeks (480 hours)	Intermediate Low	Intermediate Mid/High	Intermediate High
24 weeks (720 hours)	Intermediate High	Advanced Low/Mid	Advanced Mid/High
44 weeks(1320 hours)	Advanced Mid/High	Advanced High/Superior	Superior

**Group III Languages:** Amharic, Bengali, Burmese, Czech, Finnish, Hebrew, Hungarian, Khmer, Lao,

Nepali, Pipilino, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Sinhala, Thai, Tamil,

Turkish, Vietnamese

Aptitude for Language Learning

Length of Training	Minimal Aptitude	Average Aptitude	Superior Aptitude
16 weeks (480 hours)	Novice High	Intermediate Low/Mid	Intermediate Mid/High
24 weeks (720 hours)	Intermediate High	Advanced Low	Advanced Mid/High
44 weeks(1320 hours)	Advanced Mid	Advanced High	Superior

Group IV Languages: Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean

Aptitude for Language Learning

Length of Training	Minimal Aptitude	Average Aptitude	Superior Aptitude
16 weeks (480 hours)	Novice High	Intermediate Low	Intermediate Low/Mid
24 weeks (720 hours)	Intermediate Low/Mid	Intermediate Mid/High	Intermediate High
44 weeks(1320 hours)	Intermediate High	Advanced Low	Advanced Mid/High
80-92 weeks			
(2400-2760 Hours)	Advanced High	Superior	Superior

Source: Judith E. Liskin-Gasparro. ETS Oral Proficiency Testing Manual. Princeton, N.J.: Educational Testing Service, 1982. ILR ratings have been converted to reflect the equivalent ACTFL ratings.