



HOME CARE AIDE PROGRAM NOVEMBER 30, 2022



Transforming lives

Presenter

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Department of Health

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And Health Services

AGENDA

- Application
- Training & Certification Exam
- Administrative Rules
 - Continuing Education
 - Training
 - Certification
- Certification Exam Pass Rates
- Discussion
 - Training Expiration
- Questions
- Next Meeting

APPLICATION

Application Fee Increase

- Multi-profession meeting TOMORROW 9:00am-12:00pm
- Home Care Aides presented first
- Registration Link
- https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_COcSx4o_RgyTg90Off9xVg
- Comments may be emailed to HSQAfeerules@doh.wa.gov

On Time Application, Faster Test Date

- WAC 246-980-030(1)(b): Submit application within 14 days of hire
 - Governor's waiver ended in October 2022
- Time to process the application, authorize to test
 - Every application is deficient, can take 60 days or more
- On time submission, application processed before training completed
- Once training is completed, on time applications can be quickly authorized for test
- Late submission, applicants can wait months after training completion to test

Application Key Points

- Online or paper option
- Submit DOH application immediately
- ADA box **MUST** be checked yes or no
 - Individual interpreters: Fill out form with requested language, no professional evaluator needed
 - Accommodations: Professional evaluator form required

Application Key Points (Con't)

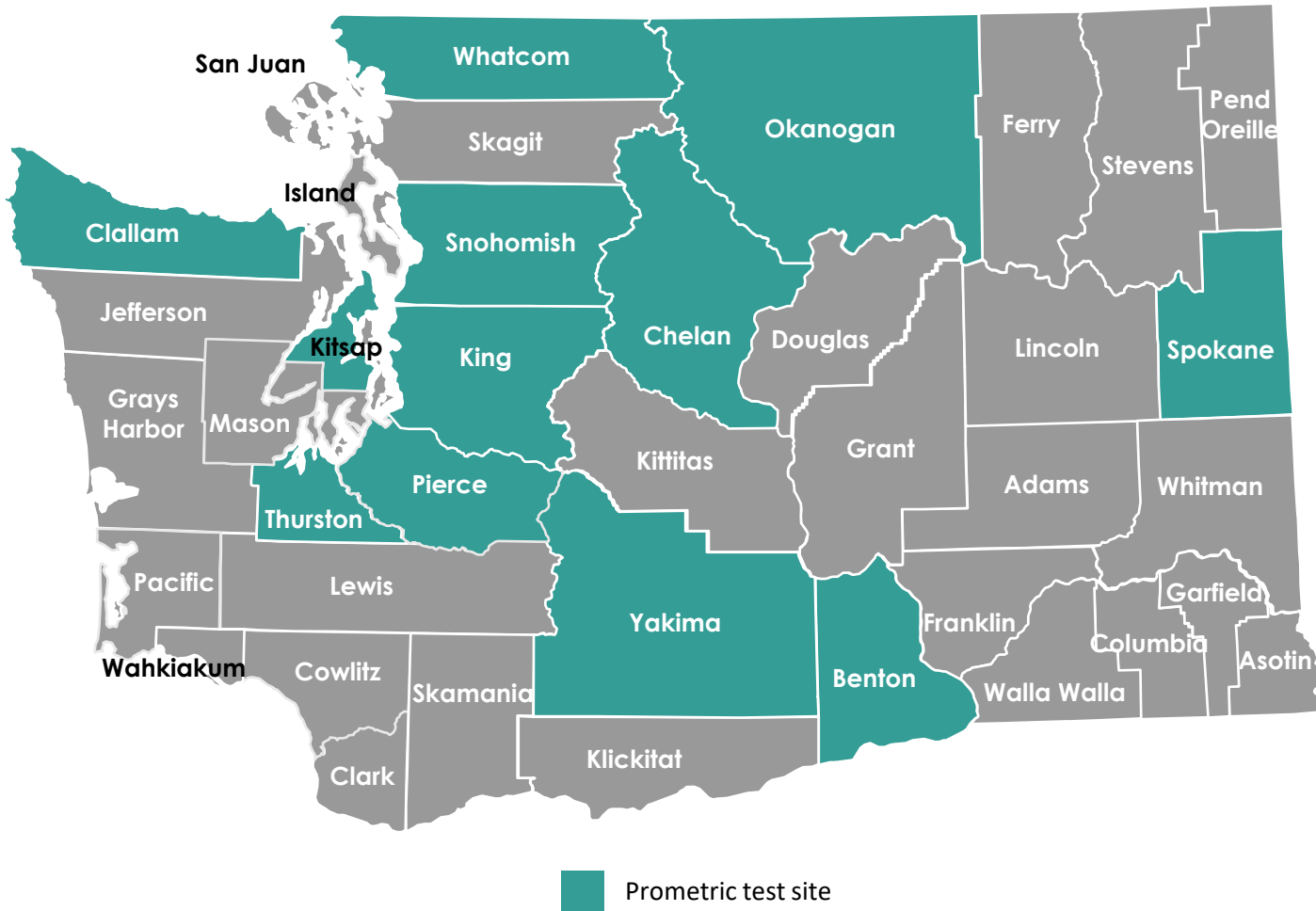
- Check email (inbox, spam and junk folders) DAILY after receiving DOH test authorization email
- If 14 days since DOH email (30 days if requesting interpreter or testing accommodation) and no Admission to Test email has been received
 - Immediately call Prometric 1-800-324-4689
- Credentialing questions: 360-236-2700

Training & Certification Exam

Test Registration 2023

- Tentatively fall 2023, applicants will go online and schedule their own exam (selecting location, date, and time)
- Changes to test registration also present an opportunity for a more efficient process
- Future engagement sessions will include:
 - Details of upcoming changes
 - Work with and listen to all impacted parties, including Prometric, DSHS, SEIU, the Training Partnership, community trainers, and other community partners

Certification Exam Sites & Population Density



Certification Exam Sites

- New regional test site in Tukwila
- Recruiting test sites in the following counties:
 - Clark
 - Cowlitz
 - Grays Harbor
 - Pacific
 - Skagit
 - Whitman
- Interested test sites should email: pro-globalrecruiting@prometric.com

WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (WAC) RULES



Current Status/Waivers Ended

- Governor's COVID-19 waivers ended October 27, 2022
- Both agencies have rules in place for hires before 2023 with extended timelines so individuals will not suddenly lose their caregiver
 - Training and CE in DSHS permanent rule
 - Certification in DOH emergency rule

Updated Training & Certification Deadlines:

Worker hired or rehired during the time frame of:	Must complete basic training no later than:	Must be certified** no later than:
8/17/2019 to 4/30/2021	1/31/2023	4/21/2023
5/1/2021 to 3/31/2022	4/30/2023	7/19/2023
4/1/2022 to 9/30/2022	8/31/2023	11/19/2023
10/1/2022 - 12/31/2022	9/30/2023	12/19/2023
Beginning 1/1/2023	Standard training requirements	Standard certification requirements

**As a Home Care Aide or Nursing Assistant Certified

Previous DSHS Emergency Rules for Training and CE Now Exist in “Permanent” Rule.

For Training Deadlines:

- [WAC 388-71-0876](#)
- [WAC 388-112A-0081](#)

For Continuing Education Deadlines:

- [WAC 388-71-0992](#)
- [WAC 388-112A-0613](#)

COVID Training Rules - Goals

- The runway for both training and certification deadlines was extended
- An additional cohort was added for workers recently hired
- Additional time for workers to complete continuing education requirements

Continuing Education Rule

LTC workers were granted 12 hours of continuing education credit for "COVID-19 On-The-Job Training Protocols"

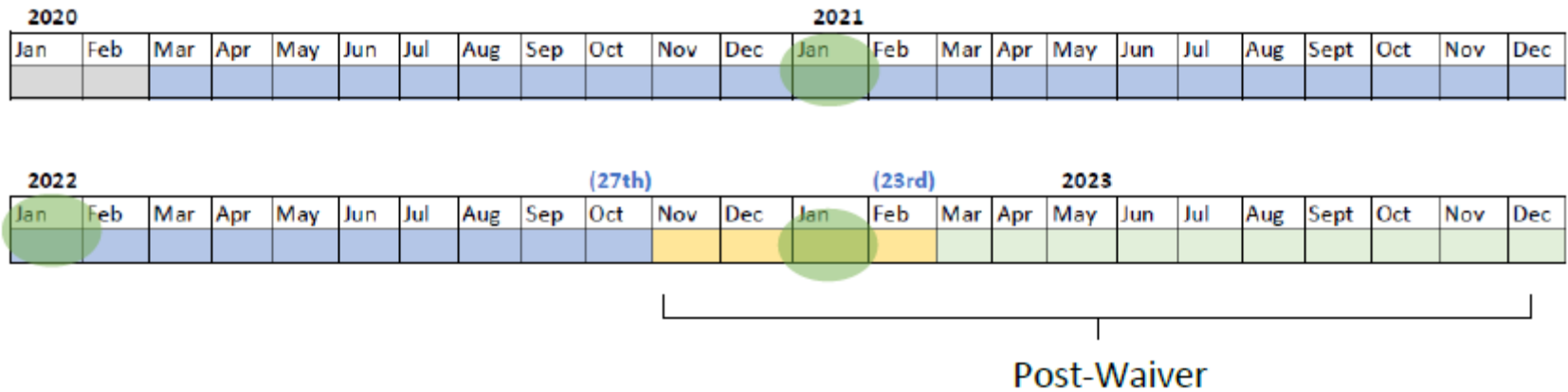
- Granted to workers employed for any amount of time between March 1, 2020, and February 28, 2021.
- No physical certificate for this training will be issued or required.
- The COVID-19 continuing education hours may be applied to renewal periods ending no earlier than March 1, 2020, and no later than December 31, 2021.

Continuing Education Rule

For any additional hours beyond the 12 granted that became due while training waivers were in place:

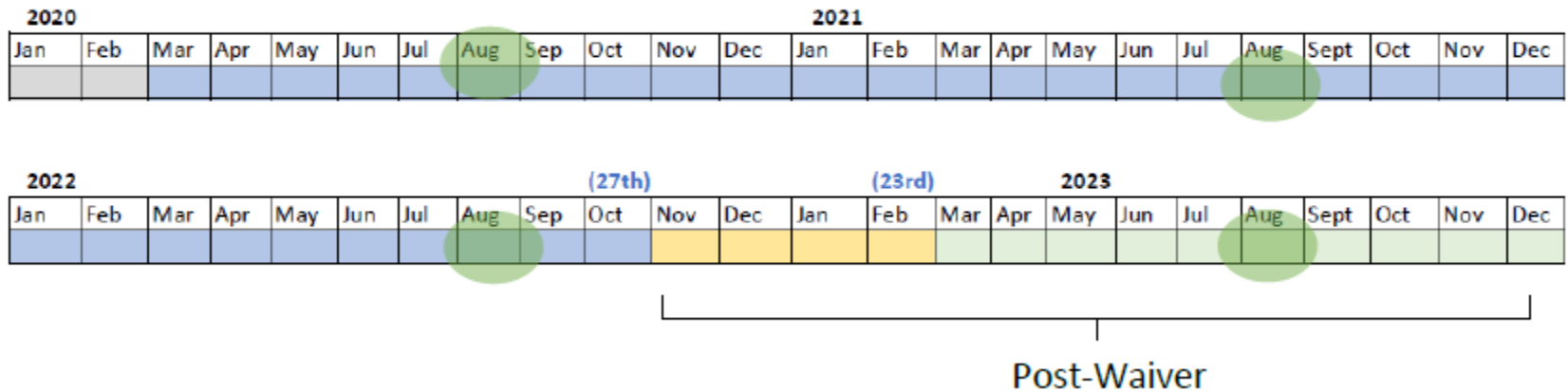
- Workers have until February 24, 2023
- If a worker's next birthday allows fewer than 120 days after the waivers are lifted to complete required CE for their current renewal cycle, the worker will have 120 days from the end of training waivers to complete the required CE.

Example: Birthday is January 15



- Birthdays in **2021** and **2022** occurred while waivers were in place. The worker has until **February 24, 2023** to complete “other” CE that came due on those dates.
- Another 12 hours become due on the worker’s **first post-waiver birthday**.
- Since the worker’s first post-waiver birthday is **fewer than 120 days after the waivers end**, the worker has until **February 24, 2023** (120 days) to complete CE for the current renewal cycle.

Example: Birthday is August 15



- Birthdays in **2020, 2021** and **2022** occurred while waivers were in place. The worker has until **February 24, 2023** to complete “other” CE that came due on those dates.
- Another 12 hours become due on the worker’s **first post-waiver birthday**.
- Since the worker’s first post-waiver birthday is **more than 120 days after the waivers end**, there is no extension. CE for the first post-waiver renewal cycle is due **August 15, 2023**.

CE and Training Due Dates Based on End of Proclamation

	End of PHE:	Due date:
CE	10/27/2022	2/24/2023
Basic Training	Final Cohort	9/30/2023
Certification	Final Cohort	12/19/2023
Training Returns to Normal		1/1/2023

Hired 12/31/22: Certification due by 12/19/23

Hired 1/1/23: Certification due 7/19/23

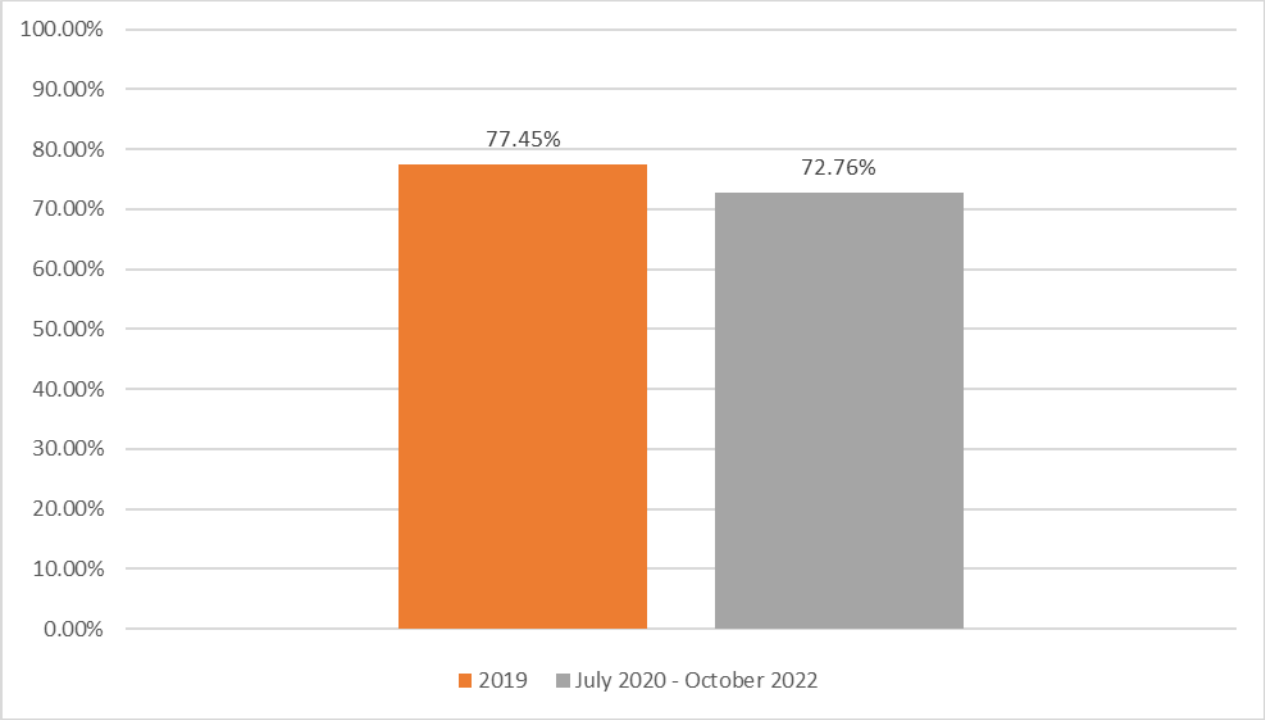
DOH Emergency Rules

- Cohorts and extended certification timeline for Home Care Aides
- Cohorts and extended certification timeline for long-term care workers voluntarily pursuing Nursing Assistant Certified
- Suspended two-year expiration for training
- Requirement to retrain if certification exam is not passed after three attempts remains in effect

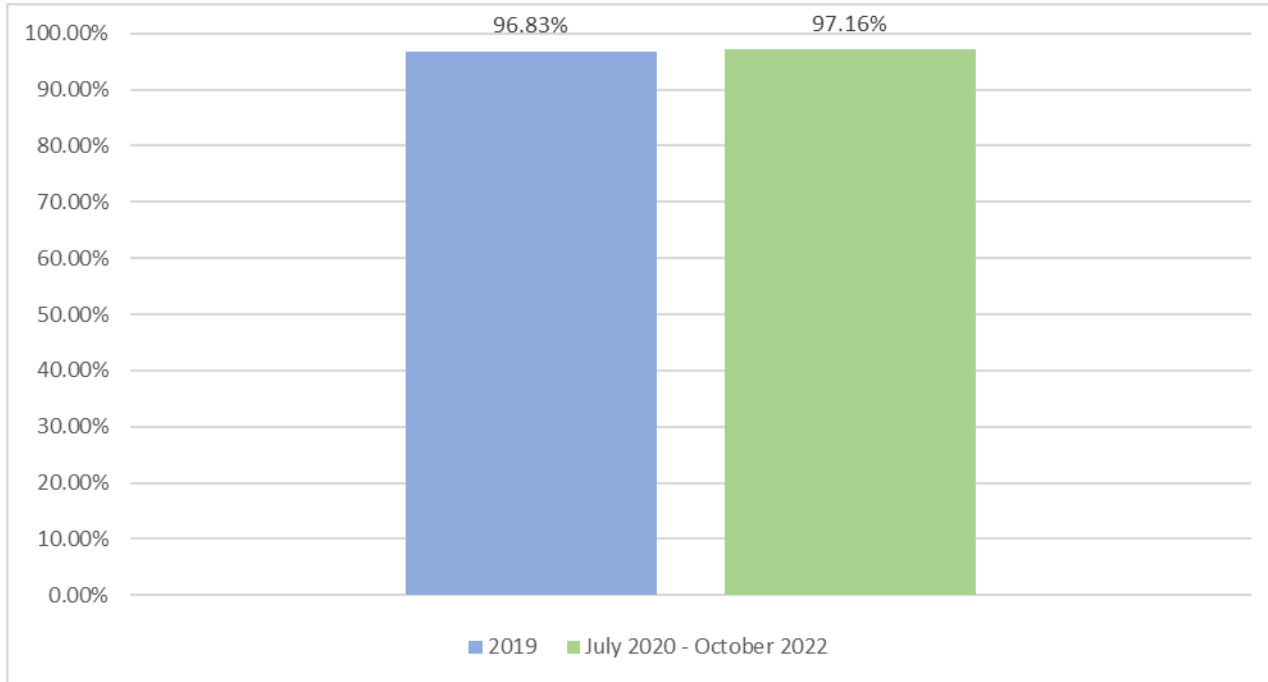
Exam Pass Rates



Skills Exam Pass Rates



Knowledge Exam Pass Rates



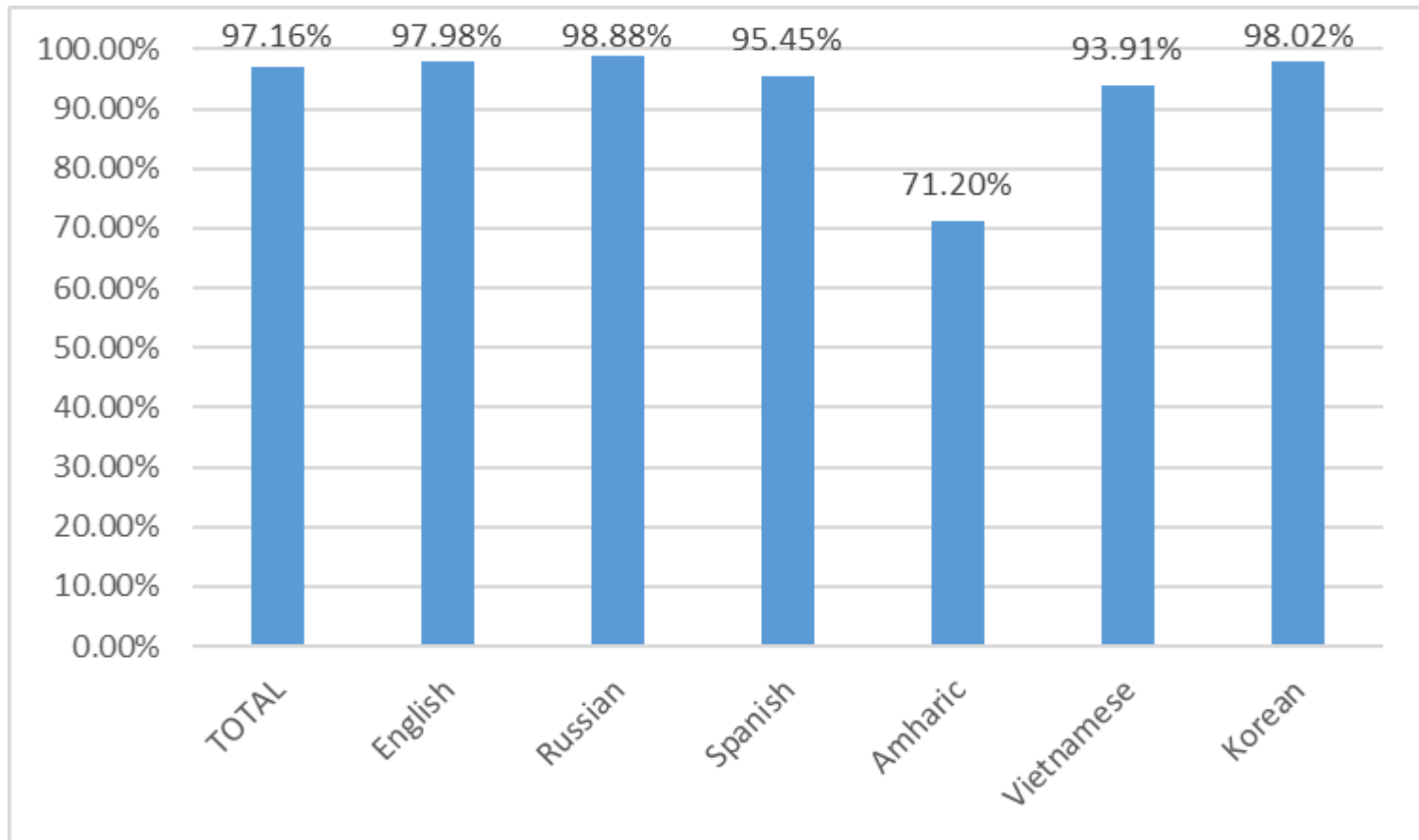
Language Breakdown, July 2020 to Oct 2022

English	7327	88.84%
Russian	179	2.17%
Spanish	154	1.87%
Amharic	125	1.52%
Vietnamese	115	1.39%
Korean	101	1.22%
Chinese	85	1.03%
Interpreters	48	0.58%
Arabic	37	0.45%
Somali	33	0.40%
Tagalog	32	0.39%
Khmer	6	0.07%
Ukranian	5	0.06%
TOTAL	8247	

Knowledge Exam, July '20 to Oct '22

Language	Passed	Taken	Pass Rate
English	7179	7327	97.98%
Russian	177	179	98.88%
Spanish	147	154	95.45%
Amharic	89	125	71.20%
Vietnamese	108	115	93.91%
Korean	99	101	98.02%
ALL EXAMS	8013	8247	97.16%

Knowledge Exam, July '20 to Oct '22

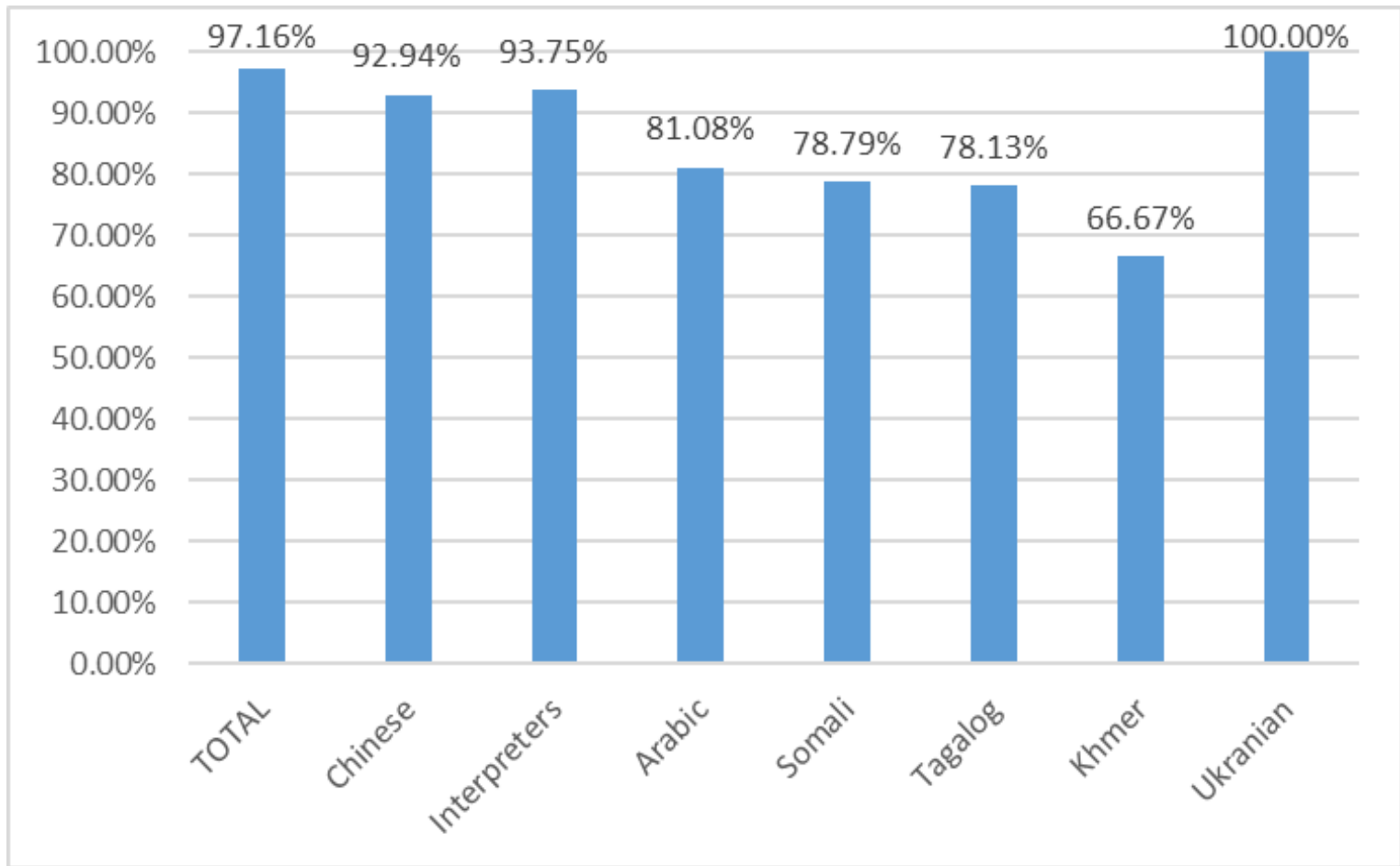


Knowledge Exam, July '20 to Oct '22

Language	Passed	Taken	Pass Rate
Chinese	79	85	92.94%
Interpreters	45	48	93.75%
Arabic	30	37	81.08%
Somali	26	33	78.79%
Tagalog	25	32	78.13%
Khmer	4	6	66.67%
Ukrainian	5	5	100.0%
ALL EXAMS	8013	8247	97.16%

*No one tested in Laotian or Samoan

Knowledge Exam, July '20 to Oct '22



Discussion

Training Expiration: WAC

- WAC 246-980-100(5)(c):An applicant who does not successfully pass both portions of the certification examination within **two years of successfully completing the required training...**
- Bold words suspended by emergency rule through February 13, 2023

Training Expiration: Why

- Models NAC program
- Recent training ensures caregivers are current on standard of care
 - This ensures safety of clients/residents
 - Improves chances of passing the certification exam

Training Expiration: Future

- DOH considering including training expiration with cohorts (those hired prior to 2023)
- GOAL: Clients/residents have caregivers current on standard of care for their safety and reduce barriers while ensuring applicants have best chance of passing exam.
- Options for PERMANENT rule change
 - Keep 2-year expiration
 - Make it 3-year expiration (same time frame an expired credential can be renewed without having to redo training and certification exam)
 - Another option?

Questions?

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, December 14th 10:00-11:30am



Washington State Department of Health is committed to providing customers with forms and publications in appropriate alternate formats. Requests can be made by calling 800-525-0127 or by email at civil.rights@doh.wa.gov. TTY users dial 711.