

Average Translation Rates

Service	Description	Pay Range
Translation	Translating into grammatically correct target document	\$40–50/hr, 300–500 wds/hr
Localization	Translating and adapting the content to the local culture.	\$50-80/hr, 200-400 wds/hr
Transcreation	Creating content in the target language and optimized to their culture.	\$50-80/hr
Spot Checking	Checking random sections of a document to ensure accuracy of tone, grammar, content, etc. Clients will specify which areas need to be checked.	\$20-\$40 per hour, 10 pages per hour.
Proofreading	Going over a document to ensure that it is free of errors.	\$20-40/hr 2-10 pages per hour, depending on the complexity and quality of translation.
Editing	Going over a document, ensuring that it is free of errors, and fixing it so that it sounds good in the target language.	\$30–40/hr 2-10 pages per hour, depending on the complexity and quality of translation.
Fact Checking	Ensuring that all numbers/facts stated in the document are correct and can be verified. May also include contacting people quoted to ensure that they are accurately represented.	\$30-40/hr and up
Spot Checking	Checking random sections of a document to ensure accuracy. Check with the client if they want you to note grammatical and spelling errors (often an editor will handle this) or check only for tone/content accuracy.	\$30-40/hr and up 5-10 pages/hour
Research	Providing research on various topics. Price varies by complexity.	\$40-75/hr
Transcription	Writing down the words spoken in an audio or video recording.	\$2.50–\$4/audio minute. About half for transcription summaries.
Formatting & Desktop Publishing	Formatting the text and images to ensure that they are ready for print and/or publication. This can be an easy upsell.	\$45–85/hr for books (6-10 pages/hour) \$40–100/hr for newsletters (1-4 pages/hour) \$16–20/pg for websites



Dubbing/Voice Over	Creating and/or spoken translations of video.	\$50/hr
Recording	Recording printed materials in the target language.	\$25-50/hr
Interpretation	Listening to a speaker and orally translating what they just said. Performed either in person, via telephone, or web conference.	Varies greatly, but \$40-100 per hour, depending on complexity, language, and certifications. Japanese earn \$1000 a day, which Chinese is more in the 650-800 range, and German is \$700-900.