

Seal of Bilingualism/Biliteracy: Eligibility Guidelines

The Seal of Bilingualism/Biliteracy is an award that recognizes students' achievement in language learning. Students who are proficient in English and an additional language may earn the Seal of Bilingualism/Biliteracy by demonstrating their skills on an approved assessment. Students receive a seal affixed to their diploma and an indication of receiving the Seal of Bilingualism/Biliteracy on their high school transcripts. This award elevates the study of languages and gives students an edge for their college applications and professional careers. In order to be eligible for the Seal, students must complete one of the following in each category:

Language	Minimum Evidence of Proficiency
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting English Language Arts (ELA) standards required for graduation • 480 or above for ELA on SAT • Score of 3 or above on AP English Language or AP English Literature • ELLs score composite proficiency level of 5.0 or Maine state threshold and above on ACCESS
Additional Language	<p>General Language tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score of 3 or above on World Language AP exam • Score of 4 on IB World Language Exam • Score of 2 or above on ACTFL Assessment of Performance Toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) • Achieve a proficiency rating of Intermediate-Mid or higher on ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI/OPIc)* • Score of 5 or above on STAMP 4S • Score of 5 or above on WorldSpeak • Score of 4 on National Examinations in World Language (NEWL) • Score of 6 on ALTA Language test <p>Language Specific Tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Score of 3 or above on American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) • Score of Intermediate Plus or above on Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) • Score of 5 or above on Avant Arabic Assessments • Score of 5 on Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) • Score of CERF B1 on Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française/Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (DELF/DALF) • Score of CERF B1 on Deutsches Sprachdiplom I (DSD) • Score of CERF B1 on Ellinomatheia • Score of 2 on the ACTFL Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment (ALIRA) • Score of 5 or above on Avant Spanish Heritage Language Test • Score of CERF B1 on Diplomas of Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE) <p>Additional pathways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide transcripts from a school in a foreign country showing at least three years of instruction in the student's home/native language in Grade 8 or beyond, with an equivalent grade average of B or higher • For Less Common World Language and Native American Languages where testing is not available through the above tests, please reach out to the Maine DOE World Languages Specialist to establish an appropriate measure of intermediate-mid proficiency based on the ACTFL Proficiency Scale

*Students seeking the Seal of Biliteracy through the ACTFL OPI may be required to show proficiency in other available language modalities using the ACTFL Listening (LPT), Reading (RPT), and/or Writing (WPT) tests.

Process: Beginning with the Class of 2019, the Maine DOE will award Seals of Bilingualism/Biliteracy to any student who meets the benchmarks listed above. World Language teachers and their administration will be responsible for ensuring that eligible students take the necessary tests. Districts will submit all student applications and supporting materials to the Maine DOE by May 1. The World Language Specialist at the Maine DOE will review the test scores and, if the student meets the requirements, will send a Seal, letter, and certificate to the student and school. When possible, a representative from the Maine DOE will attend award ceremonies to present the seal.

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