

What is the California State Seal of Biliteracy?



The State Seal of Biliteracy is a statement of accomplishment for gaining competency in two or more languages, and may be viewed as an asset when applying for employment and/or college admission.

Purpose

- Encourage students to study world languages.
- Provide universities with a method to recognize and give academic credit.
- Certify attainment of biliteracy.
- Provide a method of identifying people with language and biliteracy skills *indicating college and career readiness*.
- Prepare students with 21st century skills.
- Recognize and promote world language instruction in public schools.
- Strengthen intergroup relationships, affirm the value of diversity, and honor the multiple cultures and languages of a community.

For more information about the State Seal of Biliteracy, visit the California Department of Education website at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbiliteracy.asp>

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2019–2020 Participating District and Charter Contacts

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Natomas Charter School - Laura Bariel
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Visions In Education - Christopher Smith
(916) 883-1673; csmith@viedu.org

For information about the Sacramento County Office of Education award process, contact:

Graciela García-Torres
English Learner Programs & Accountability
(916) 228-2478
gtorres@scoe.net



Seal of Biliteracy

for Eligible Graduating High School Seniors

The **State Seal of Biliteracy** is an award given to graduating high school students who have studied and attained proficiency in English and one or more languages.

The Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE), in collaboration with participating local districts, identifies candidates for this award, verifies their language skills, and publicly recognizes students for exemplary achievement.

To find out how to receive this award, refer to the list of district and charter contacts on the back of this brochure.

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Eligibility

Graduating High School students who wish to receive the California State Seal of Biliteracy must submit an application form to their home district and meet all of the following requirements (Ed Code, Section 51460).

Requirements for meeting English language proficiency criteria:

1. Complete all English-language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade-point average of 2.0 or above in those classes.

AND

2. Pass the 11th grade California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) for English-language arts (ELA) at or above the “standard met” level.

AND

3. Demonstrate proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. (See your contact for the different methods to demonstrate proficiency.)

Students whose **primary language is not English** must meet requirements 1, 2, and 3 above AND score at Level 4 on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) or have met Reclassification status.



Options for Meeting World Language Proficiency Criteria

Proficiency in language(s) other than English must be determined through **one** of the following methods:

- A. Score 3 or higher on a world language Advanced Placement (AP) exam.
- B. Score 4 or higher on a foreign language International Baccalaureate (IB) exam.
- C. Score 600 or higher on the Scholastic Assessment Test II (SAT II) foreign language examination.
- D. Successfully complete a 4-year high school course of study in a world language with a grade-point average of 3.0 or above in that course of study including **oral proficiency**.
- E. Score “proficient” level or higher on a district or county language exam that assesses speaking, reading, and writing in a language other than English.

(Note: If options A-D are not viable, the student may participate in the SCOE language exam. SCOE’s exam includes reading and writing sections as well as an oral interview in the language of interest.)

SCOE offers language exams in the following languages: Arabic, Armenian, Cantonese,* Dari, Farsi, French, German, Hindi, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Mandarin,* Pashto, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese

* Chinese must specify **spoken** language.



Award Components

- Self-adhesive gold embossed insignia that may be affixed to the diploma or transcript of the student indicating that the student has been awarded a State Seal of Biliteracy.
- Sacramento County Office of Education Seal of Biliteracy Certificate.
- Opportunity to participate in a Sacramento County recognition ceremony.
- Other local district recognitions may apply; check with your district contact.

Timeline

The application and examination process information will be completed in the Spring. Completed applications for participation in the SCOE assessment or recognition ceremony must be submitted to your district contact.

Questions?

Students interested in earning a Seal of Biliteracy must connect with their district contact for more details and to obtain an application. (Refer to the back of this brochure for a list of contacts.)