



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 29, 2021
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: High School Principals, School Counselors, Bilingual/ESL Supervisors, World Language Supervisors
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Lisa J. Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: October 26, 2021

2021–2022 State Seal of Biliteracy Program

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) invites districts to participate in the State Seal of Biliteracy program. Graduating seniors of public high schools can receive an NJDOE-issued certificate and transcript notation indicating the receipt of the State Seal of Biliteracy if they demonstrate proficiency in English and one or more World Languages. Information about the [State Seal of Biliteracy program](#) can be found on the NJDOE website.

Participation Process

- 1) District indicates participation by identifying the district Biliteracy coordinator through the [CDS system](#) **no later than October 26, 2021**. Directions for adding or changing the Biliteracy coordinator can be found in the [CDS Manual for Regular School Districts and Charters](#). Questions about the CDS should be directed to CDShelp@doe.nj.gov.
- 2) District Seal of Biliteracy coordinator completes the [2021-2022 State Seal of Biliteracy Participation form](#) **no later than October 26, 2021**, indicating the World Languages that will be assessed and the assessments that will be administered.
- 3) District administers [NJDOE approved World Language assessments](#) to graduating seniors and juniors in their second semester.
- 4) District submits data via [NJSMART](#) indicating students' biliteracy status (yes or no), World Language assessed, and the World Language assessment administered.
- 5) NJDOE verifies NJSMART data and uploads certificates for graduating seniors who have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy in [NJHomeroom](#).
- 6) District Seal of Biliteracy coordinator downloads certificates from [NJHomeroom](#) and distributes to graduating seniors.

NJDOE Supports

The NJDOE will host webinars in November and December to explain the State Seal of Biliteracy program and describe the NJSMART data submission process for districts new to the program as well as returning districts. The district Seal of Biliteracy coordinator and the staff member who submit NJSMART data are encouraged to attend the webinar. Registration information for the webinars will be emailed to the district Biliteracy coordinator.

Please direct questions to the Title III & Bilingual/ESL Unit, Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at ell@doe.nj.gov or to standards@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group
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