



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: February 15, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: High School Principals, School Counselors, Bilingual/ESL Supervisors, World Language Supervisors, NJSMART coordinators
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Jorden Schiff, Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

NJSMART Reporting for the 2022-2023 State Seal of Biliteracy Program

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is excited to continue its support of graduating high school students with attaining the [State Seal of Biliteracy](#) by demonstrating proficiency in English and one or more additional languages. In order to ensure accurate and timely data collection related to the program by March 1, 2023 at 5:00 pm, districts must report Seal of Biliteracy data for graduating 12th grade students through the NJ SMART SID Management submission as detailed below.

For districts participating in the Seal of Biliteracy program, the Points of Contact for NJ SMART and the Biliteracy Program should work together to collect and report this data. As a reminder, to receive the seal designation, proficiency must be demonstrated in the following areas:

1. At Intermediate Mid linguistic proficiency level (or higher) in the world language assessed using a DOE-approved assessment.
 - a. For students achieving Intermediate Mid proficiency or higher, enter Biliterate = Y and fill in the corresponding World Language Assessment and World Languages Assessed category/categories. The Biliterate field should be blank for all students not in Grade 12.
2. In English, by meeting the English language arts graduation requirements.
 - a. English language arts (ELA) graduation pathways must also be completed for graduating high school seniors who are being considered for meeting the Seal of Biliteracy criteria by using the value **W** for the ELA Graduation Pathway Indicator.

For districts not participating in the Seal of Biliteracy program, a value of "N" for the Biliterate field should be reported for all students in Grade 12 **only**.

NJSMART will host "SID Management: Seal of Biliteracy" webinar on February 21, 2023 at 10 am. Please visit the eLearning Videos & Webinars tab on the NJSMART [Resources & Trainings](#) page to register.

Students who attain this distinction will receive a Department-issued certificate and transcript notation indicating the awarding of the Seal of Biliteracy in the spring. For information about the State Seal of Biliteracy and the criteria to receive this designation, please visit the NJDOE [Seal of Biliteracy](#) webpage.

Please direct questions to the Office of Standards at worldlang@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group