



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 8, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: High School Principals, Adult High School Principals, School Counselors, World Language Supervisors, Bilingual/ESL Supervisors
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: October 22, 2025

2025-2026 State Seal of Biliteracy Program Participation and Updates

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is providing supports for school districts for the 2025-2026 school year implementation of the New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy. Graduating high school and adult high school students who have demonstrated proficiency in English and one or more additional languages are eligible to attain the New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy. For detailed information on eligibility criteria, please visit the [New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy webpage](#).

Key steps/actions

To indicate participation in the State Seal of Biliteracy program, school districts should include or update the district Biliteracy Coordinator in the [County/District/School \(CDS\) information system](#). This information will be used for all communication about the Seal of Biliteracy. For additional assistance, please consult the [CDS Manual for Regular School Districts and Charters](#).

NJDOE's webinars for implementing the Seal of Biliteracy are open for registration; please see the [NJDOE's Calendar of Events website](#) to register. Webinars will be held on October 20, 22, November 5, and November 25, 2025. Additional supports are offered throughout the year and available on the [New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy](#) webpage under "Resources." In addition, office hours will be held on November 12, 2025. Please see the [NJDOE's Calendar of Events website](#) to register for these office hours.

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, the collection of Seal of Biliteracy data will no longer take place in NJ SMART. Instead, this data will now be captured in New Jersey Statewide Longitudinal Data System (NJSLEDS) each spring. This change is part of NJDOE's effort to streamline data integration and support better longitudinal reporting. Support for this transition will be available during the Seal of Biliteracy webinars listed above, with additional resources and training available at a later date.

Contact information

For more information or questions, please contact worldlang@doe.nj.gov or call (609) 376-3628.

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