New Jersey

State Seal of Biliteracy

recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages, in addition to English.

Why Offer the Seal?



Title IV funds can be used for Seal of Biliteracy testing.

For more information about the criteria for the Seal of Biliteracy, visit the New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy webpage for acceptable evidence of proficiency:

www.nj.gov/education/standards/worldlang/SealofBiliteracy.shtml



For questions, please email: worldlang@doe.nj.gov

The Seal of Biliteracy serves as a means for higher education, employers and the military to identify people with multilingual skills. As the world becomes more global and our communities more linguistically diverse, there is an increasing need for individuals with multilingual skills. The Seal of Biliteracy seeks to:

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- Prepare students for postsecondary success;
- Encourage students to maintain their home language while learning another language; and
- Recognize the linguistic and cultural diversity of New Jersey and the world.

Implementing the Seal of Biliteracy Program in Your Local Educational Agency (LEA)

Participation in the Seal of Biliteracy program is voluntary and at the discretion of each LEA. For students to be eligible to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, the LEA they attend must participate in the Seal of Biliteracy program. By participating in the Seal of Biliteracy, LEAs:

- Determine who will pay for the costs associated with assessments for the Seal of Biliteracy. LEAs may elect to pay the assessment costs or pass the costs onto families. Depending on the approved assessment selected, costs range from \$10 to \$273.
- Select, order and administer New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) approved World Language assessments.
- Maintain appropriate records to identify students who have earned the Seal of Biliteracy.
- Provide the NJDOE with information regarding students who qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy.
- Present each student who qualifies with an NJDOE-issued certificate.
- Include "New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy" on the student's transcript.

Student Eligibility Requirements

For students to be eligible to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, they must meet certain criteria:

- Students must demonstrate a proficiency of Intermediate Mid in a language other than English; and
- Students must demonstrate proficiency in English by meeting State high school graduation requirements in English Language Arts.

With Intermediate Mid proficiency, students handle straightforward tasks related to everyday life and discuss some researched topics. In their communication, they ask a variety of questions and use strings of sentences.