

Seal of Biliteracy

Information Sheet



What is the Biliteracy Seal:

- The Arizona Seal of Biliteracy recognizes students who demonstrate proficiency in English and one or more other world languages.
- The Seal of Biliteracy was first adopted in Arizona by the State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), in 2016 and is recognized in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. (per SB1239).

Why Participate:

- It is a prestigious award that will set you apart when applying for scholarships, colleges, internships or jobs.
- Research shows that those who know more than one language have better memory, increased problem-solving skills, and improved confidence.
- Increases awareness of the need in our communities, state, nation, and world for people with biliteracy and cross-cultural skills.
- Benefits learners in the labor market and the global society while strengthening intergroup relationships and honoring the multiple cultures and languages within a community (SealofBiliteracy.org).
- You will be recognized at various awards ceremonies in the district.
- You will receive a medal you can wear at commencement.
- You will receive the Biliteracy Seal on your diploma showing that you have demonstrated proficiency in a World Language.
- Your transcript will note that you earned the Seal of Biliteracy.

Steps Involved:

1. Do well in your English classes. You must have a minimum GPA of a 2.0 in each of your ELA courses: English I, English II, English III, English IV
2. Demonstrate English language proficiency through ONE of the assessment options listed on the application form (Section 2). Documentation of a passing score must be provided with this application.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in a World Language on ONE of the assessment options listed on the application form (Section 3).
4. Students will need to set up a meeting with their school counselor to have the Seal of Biliteracy application form signed; documenting that they have completed the necessary course load.
5. Submit this application- including all required documentation evidence- by the due date, on or before **April 5th**.

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Seal of Biliteracy

Application



Student Full Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Student email _____ School: _____

Counselor Name: _____ Date: _____

The Arizona Seal of Biliteracy, pursuant to A.R.S §15-258, recognizes high school students who achieve proficiency in English plus at least one additional language. To be awarded the Seal of Biliteracy, students must submit this application on or before **April 5** or *as soon as your application is complete*. Students must meet the following requirements during grades 9-12. Previous experience will not be counted.

1. Students must complete all required **English Language Arts** courses with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 out of a 4.0 scale. In the spaces provided next to each class, write the letter grade you earned.

Is 4th English completed? Yes, No, if not list current grade: _____ as of _____ (date)

English I: _____ English II: _____ English III: _____ English IV: _____

ELA GPA _____ (must be 2.0 or higher) Counselor Signature: _____

****An unofficial transcript must be submitted with this application. Students can access their transcript in StudentVUE by going to "Course History" then "Unofficial Transcript."****

2. Must demonstrate English language proficiency through ONE of the below assessments. If the student has a primary language other than English, obtains a score of proficient or higher based on the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPs), pursuant to section 15-756. They must take the AZELLA between 9-12 grade and get a Proficient Score (250-400). If a student took AZELLA and proved proficient prior to 9th grade, they must take one of the following assessments.

In the space provided next to the assessment, write the score you earned.

- ACT ELA score of at least a 19 Your ACT Score _____
- ACT (Traditional test) minimum scores (Reading 22 and English 18) **OR** ELA 20
Your Reading Score _____ AND English Score _____
- A.P. English (Language/Literature and Composition) exam of 3 or higher
Your AP Score _____
- Dual-Enrollment End of Course Exam- attain a passing score of at least a 60%
- IB Language and Literature exam of 4 or higher Your IB Score _____
- SAT Reading and Writing score of 480 or higher Your SAT Score _____
- AAPPL performance score of I-3 on English Language (for both Form A2 and Form B2)
Your Score _____

Any other qualifying assessment per ADE: _____
Your Score _____

****Documentation showing your scores for any of the items above must be submitted with this application. For example, a transcript from a community college showing final exam grade, reports showing your score from ACT, AP or IB.**

3. Demonstrates proficiency in **one or more languages other than English** by meeting the requirements adopted by ADE. Mark the box next to the assessment that you took.

Which language did you test in? _____

- AAPPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance Towards Proficiency in Languages):
 - a. Attain a minimum score of **Intermediate Three (IB)** for all categories in one of the following languages: Spanish, French, German, Japanese
 - b. Attain a score of Intermediate Two for the following languages: Arabic, Bengali, Japanese, Korea, Macedonian, Mandarin, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Tagalog, Vietnamese
- AP exam score of **3 or higher** for the world language **Your Score _____***
- IB exam score of **4 or higher** on a Higher -Level (HL) exam or **5 or higher** on a Standard- Level (SL) exam **Your Score _____***
- American Sign Language:
 - o Avant STAMP for ASL
 - o Attain a score of Intermediate on the Sign Language Proficiency Interview OR
 - o Attain a score of three or higher on the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI) **Your Score _____***
- Navajo Nation Seal of Biliteracy Proficiency Assessment:
Attain a score of 3 (reached) or 4 (goes beyond) **Your Score _____***

****Documentation of proficiency must be submitted with this application.**

To verify a second language assessment score, a World Language Teacher or School Counselor must sign to verify that one of the above scores were met:

World Language Teacher _____

AND/OR

Counselor Signature: _____

****Provide documentation of participation in all three categories and submit with this application.**

Once your application is complete, please either submit all required documents to your teacher, school counselor or scan and email to the World Language Coach (Michele Bentivegna, mbentivegna@pusd11.net) at the district office. Please reach out if you have any questions, 623-412-5328 or x5328 if calling within the district.