



SEAL OF BILITERACY

Award a minimum of 5 credits of world language, with 10 credits strongly recommended. Colleges will transcript the credits as they do for AP/IB language curriculum through their PLA (Prior Learning Assessment) processes.

Background

[Washington State Seal of Biliteracy | OSPI \(www.k12.wa.us\)](http://www.k12.wa.us)

The Washington State Seal of Biliteracy was established in 2014 with the intent to recognize public high school graduates who have attained an intermediate-mid proficiency in English and one or more world languages, including American Sign Language and Tribal languages. Participating school districts with students eligible to receive the Seal shall place a notation on a student's high school diploma and high school transcript indicating that the student has earned the Seal.

To earn the Seal of Biliteracy, students must demonstrate proficiency in English. English proficiency must be demonstrated by meeting the statewide minimum graduation requirements in English language arts for the student's chosen pathway established by the State Board of Education

To earn the Seal of Biliteracy, students must also demonstrate proficiency in one or more world languages. World language proficiency must be established by achieving at least intermediate-mid proficiency on all test components aligned to the [American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages \(ACTFL\) scale](#). Tests which are not aligned to the ACTFL scale must show equivalent proficiency. Assessments must be national or international and approved by OSPI.

All world languages are suitable to assess for the Seal, including Classical languages (Latin, Sanskrit, Ancient Greek), American Sign Language, and Tribal languages. However, computer science or programming languages do not count toward world language credits. For Tribal languages, honoring tribal sovereignty, tribal consultation, and government to government relationships between Tribes and districts, each Tribe determines the level of proficiency students need to be considered biliterate. Tribes develop the methods and processes for determining proficiency in their respective Tribal languages.

Approved by Instruction Commission

10/24/2022