



SEAL OF BILITERACY

RULES & PROCEDURES

Background:

The Utah State Board of Education has established a Seal of Biliteracy. The following was adopted by the Board of Education:

The USBE's Seal of Biliteracy certifies attainment of a high level of proficiency by a graduating high school student in one or more languages in addition to English, and certifies that the graduate meets all of the following criteria:

- a. The USBE's Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded to students who earn a Utah high school diploma and who are proficient in English and at least one world language other than English, at the Intermediate-Mid level or higher, as demonstrated through an assessment from a list to be approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- b. For purposes of this form, "world language" means a language other than English, and includes American Sign Language and American Native Languages (Navajo, Ute, etc.)

Definitions:

1. "Intermediate-Mid" level means a level of language proficiency in terms of speaking, writing, listening, and reading in real-world situations in a spontaneous and non-rehearsed context, as established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.
2. "Seal of Biliteracy" means a recognition, awarded in conjunction with a student's high school diploma, which certifies that a student is proficient in English and at Intermediate-Mid level or higher in one or more world languages.
3. "World language" means a language other than English and includes:
 - a. American Sign Language; and
 - b. American Native Languages, such as Navajo or Ute.

Procedures:

1. The school will advertise the criteria for the Seal of Biliteracy as follows:
 - a. On the School Website
 - b. On the Weekly News letter sent via email to parents and students
 - c. On the School bulletin board
 - d. By a phone call reminding parents of the application deadline
2. The ESL Specialist and/or the high school counselor will track students from 9th grade to 12th grade, who may qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy.

3. Student should sign up at the front desk to take the assessment to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy no later than January 31st.
4. Students will take the World Language assessment in March of the current school year.
5. After the results of the World Language assessment, students who demonstrate a minimum of Intermediate Mid-Level on the assessment will apply for the Seal of Biliteracy by May 1st. Applications will be provided by the high school counselor.
6. The high school counselor will document students' progress.
7. The school will award the Seal of Biliteracy to a student who:
 - a. Demonstrates proficiency in an English assessment (WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, ACT English Section, North Western Educational Assessment); and
 - b. Demonstrates a minimum of Intermediate Mid-level proficiency in a World Language assessment (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages)
8. A student who meets all the necessary requirements will receive from the school a Seal of Biliteracy that will appear electronically on the student's transcript and appear on the student's paper diploma.