

# Maine Seal of Biliteracy

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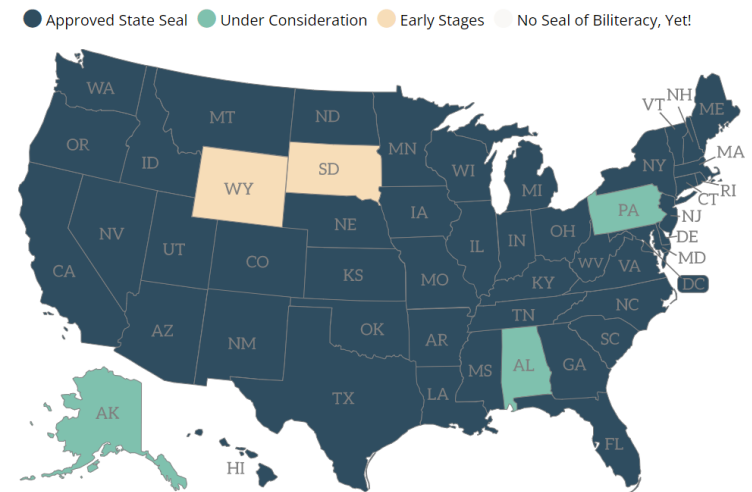
# Overview

- What is the Seal of Biliteracy?
- How does it benefit students?
- What are the eligibility criteria?
- How can a student apply?
- General timeline
- Considerations for implementation

# What is the Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award that celebrates multilingualism by recognizing students with a high level of skill in English and at least one other language.

- Each state has different criteria
- Most states have written the Seal into legislation
- Maine's Seal has been adopted as policy by the DOE
- [Global Seal of Biliteracy](#) – an option for people who are not graduating HS students



# How does it benefit students?

- Important messaging expressing value of languages
- Tangible motivation for continued language study
- Workplace credential
- College credit at UMS campuses
  - [University of Maine](#)
  - [University of Southern Maine](#)
  - For info on other UMS campuses, please contact their world languages departments.

# What are the eligibility criteria?

## English

### One of the following:

- Meeting English Language Arts (ELA) standards required for graduation
- Score of 480 or above for ELA on SAT
- Score of 3 or above on AP English Language or AP English Literature
- Overall composite proficiency level of 4.5 or higher on ACCESS for ELLs

# What are the eligibility criteria?

- For languages other than English, each domain tested must be at the intermediate mid level or higher.
- Exemptions:
  - Students whose primary/home language is other than English may be eligible for an exemption from the reading and writing domains if they have not had sufficient educational opportunity to become literate in their language.
  - Students who are deaf or hard of hearing may be eligible for an exemption from the listening domain.

# What are the eligibility criteria?

## Tests Available in Multiple Languages (Click on the links to see languages offered.)

- Score of 3 or above on World Language [AP exam](#)
- Score of 4 on [IB World Language Exam B SL or HL exam](#)
- Score of I2 or above on ACTFL [Assessment of Performance Toward Proficiency in Languages \(AAPPL\) form B](#)
- Achieve a proficiency rating of Intermediate-Mid or higher on ACTFL [Oral Proficiency Interview \(OPI/OPIc\)\\*\\*](#)
- Score of 5 or above on Avant [STAMP 4S](#)
- Score of 5 or above on Avant [STAMP WS](#) (formerly WorldSpeak)
- Score of 4 on [National Examinations in World Languages \(NEWL\)](#)
- Score of 6 or ILR 1+ on [ALTA Language Test](#)

## Language-Specific Tests

- Score of 3 on [American Sign Language Proficiency Interview \(ASLPI\)](#)
- Score of Intermediate Plus on [Sign Language Proficiency Interview \(SLPI\)](#)
- Score of 5 on [Avant Arabic Proficiency Test \(APT\)](#)
- Score of CEFR B1 on [Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française/Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française \(DELF/DALF\)](#)
- Score of CEFR B1 on [Deutsches Sprachdiplom I \(DSD\)](#)
- Score of CEFR B1 on [Ellinomatheia](#)
- Score of I2 on the [ACTFL Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment \(ALIRA\)](#)
- Score of 5 on [Avant Spanish Heritage Language Test \(SHL\)](#)
- Score of CEFR B1 on [Diplomas of Spanish as a Foreign Language \(DELE\)](#)
- Score of CEFR B1 on [Goethe-Institut German Exam](#)

# What are the eligibility criteria?

## Additional pathways






- Provide transcripts from a school in a foreign country showing at least three years of instruction in the student's home/native language in 8th grade or beyond, with an equivalent grade average of B or higher.
- For less commonly taught world languages and Native American languages without standardized testing options, please reach out to the Maine DOE World Languages & ESOL/Bilingual Programs Specialist to establish an appropriate measure of intermediate-mid proficiency based on the [ACTFL Proficiency Scale](#).



# How can a student apply?

- All applications must be submitted through the [online application form](#).
- The student can submit the application, or it can be submitted by a school staff member on the student's behalf.
- The application must be signed by the student (if 18+) or the parent/guardian.
  - If a staff member has submitted the application, a separate signature collection form must be shared with student/parent/guardian.

# General Timeline

All Year	October- November	December- February	April-May	May-July
<b>Promotion</b> 	<b>Preparing for testing</b> 	<b>Test administration</b> 	<b>Application submission</b> 	<b>Celebration!</b> 

# Dates to Remember

## **5/15** Application Deadline\*

- Applications are approved on a rolling basis, approximately every 2-4 weeks.
- Approvals are sent via email to principal, teacher, counselor, and student.

## **5/25** Hard copy approval materials will be mailed

- Complete list of Seal recipients, languages, and levels
- Certificates
- Seal stickers

# Considerations for Implementation

- Ensure good communication between WL/ESOL teachers and school counselors
  - School counselors must add the Seal to the student's transcript
  - Include the Seal approval letter when sending final transcripts to UMS campuses
- Plan for re-testing as needed
- You may wish to order materials from Norogala Show Ribbons/Northeast Trophy



# Questions? Need support?

Maine Seal of Biliteracy

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