



Cedar Springs Public Schools

Michigan Seal of Biliteracy FAQ

What is the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy?

The State Seal of Biliteracy is an award that students can earn by demonstrating proficiency in reading, speaking, listening and writing in English and one other language. Students who earn this award will receive a seal on their diploma that indicates they have achieved biliteracy. Students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy do not receive college credit. If applicable, students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy through the Advanced Placement (AP) exam could be eligible for college credit based on university requirements regarding AP test scores. [Click here](#) for more information about the Seal of Biliteracy.

What are the benefits of the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy indicates to employers, college admissions, and others that the student can read, speak, listen, and write in English and another language. It is a way for students to receive official recognition for their language skills. The Seal serves as an additional tool for colleges and universities to recognize students' language abilities for admission and placement.

What are the pathways to earn the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy?

Students learning a world language:

A student must demonstrate proficiency by achieving certain minimum scores on standardized tests in both English and another language. A student must demonstrate proficiency in English through the MMC graduation requirements. All recipients of the Seal must also demonstrate Intermediate High or equivalent proficiency in a World Language as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) on the Avant STAMP 4S (STAndards-based Measurement of Proficiency Four Skills) assessment, or earn a 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement (AP) assessment, or earn a 3 on the ASLPI (American Sign Language Proficiency Interview Full Assessment).

Students learning English:

New to the US after 6th grade: A student must demonstrate proficiency in English through the MMC graduation requirements. If documentation that the student was in school in his/her home country, no additional assessment is needed. *Students could also choose to demonstrate Intermediate High or equivalent proficiency in English as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) on the Avant STAMP 4S (STAndards-based Measurement of Proficiency Four Skills) assessment in order to receive the Seal and be acknowledged before graduation.

US-born or came to the US before 6th grade: A student must demonstrate proficiency in English through the MMC graduation requirements. All recipients of the Seal must also demonstrate Intermediate High or equivalent proficiency in a World Language as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) on the Avant STAMP 4S (STAndards-based Measurement of Proficiency Four Skills), or earn a 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement (AP) assessment.



How do I know if I need to take the STAMP test in English?

Depending on your SAT score in the ELA portion (or your composite score on the WIDA ACCESS test if you were an English Language Learner when you entered high school), you may not need to take the STAMP test. However, if you would like to be rewarded with the Seal of Biliteracy at graduation, you will have to take the STAMP test to be awarded in time. See your ESL teacher (Ms. Veneklas) for more information.

What will the test assess?

It is a four-part test that assesses the student's language abilities in the areas of reading, listening, speaking, and writing.

How do I sign up for the test?

The test costs \$25. You will register with the [Seal of Biliteracy test registration form](#) and pay for your test in the main office by December 20. See Mrs. Wiles for more information.

When/where will the test be administered?

The test will be administered on Friday, January 24, starting at 7:30 a.m. at the high school. The test will last up to four hours. Students will be excused from the classes they miss.

What if I don't reach the Intermediate High benchmark on the test?

You can retest! You will have to wait until the next available testing window.