

Utah Seal of Biliteracy



What is the Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy is a recognition awarded to **any student** upon graduation, who demonstrates proficiency in English and at least one other language in grades 9-12.

Why is the Seal of Biliteracy important?

College admission offices and future employers value Biliteracy. By offering students the opportunity to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, we not only encourage biliteracy, we honor the skills students have worked hard to achieve and maintain.

How do students get the Seal of Biliteracy?

Students must demonstrate proficiency in English and one other language through a state approved assessment. In the target language, students must meet proficiency requirements in at least 3 of the 4 language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing).

Students may apply for the Seal of Biliteracy when they are in grades 11-12. Proficiency scores acquired in grades 9-12 will qualify a student for the Seal of Biliteracy.

Each high school has a Seal of Biliteracy Coordinator who oversees the Seal of Biliteracy for that school. If a student has any questions, they should contact their school's Seal of Biliteracy Coordinator.

If an ELL demonstrates proficiency in English, do they automatically get the Seal of Biliteracy when they graduate?

No. In addition to demonstrating proficiency in English, an ELL must also meet the proficiency requirements in another language, whether or not they are a native speaker of that language.

Proficiency scores for both English and the target language must be acquired in grades 9-12.

What if a language is not widely spoken or is only a spoken language?

The Seal of Biliteracy Coordinator will arrange for an appropriate assessment for that language.

What level of proficiency is required in the target language?

Students must demonstrate at least an Intermediate-Mid level of proficiency in the target language as identified in the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.

Can students apply for the Seal of Biliteracy before grade 11?

Although proficiency scores in grade 9-12 may be used, students may apply for the Seal of Biliteracy in grades 11-12. This maximizes time for students to develop proficiency and get on track for graduation.