

Who qualifies for the Seal of Biliteracy?

Students in a Level 5 or AP World Language class are eligible to attain the Seal of Biliteracy based on evidence of achieving the state-determined level of proficiency in English, as well as one or more additional languages, be that language a native language, heritage language, or a language learned in school or another setting.



Biliteracy refers to having a functional level of proficiency in each language; the level of proficiency is not necessarily identical for both languages.

Eligibility Criteria for a Student:

Students need to acquire:
3 points in **ELA**
3 points in **World Language**

English Language Arts:

Completion of all English Language Arts graduation requirements and attain 3 points in ELA-

- 1 point- complete ELA grades 11 and 12 with an average of 85 or better
- 1 point- pass the ELA Regents Exam with 80 or better
- 1 point- attain a 3 or higher on the English AP Exam
- 2 points- successfully complete an ELA Research project.



World Languages:

Demonstrate proficiency in one or more approved world languages other than English by attaining 3 points-

- 1 point- complete LOTE grades 11 and 12 with an average of 85 or better
- 2 points- successfully complete a LOTE portfolio and student showcase

Frequently asked questions:

Is there a cost to students for the Seal?

No. There is no fee.

What does a Seal of Biliteracy look like?

The New York State Education department provides a digital seal image to be placed directly on your diploma. Similar to the one on the cover of this brochure. Recipients will also receive a certificate and medal.

Is there a student application?

Yes. There is an application process. Students can contact their language or ELL teacher for details.

Is there a different pathway for an English Language Learner (ELL) to receive the NYSSB?

Yes. ELL students should contact their ENL teacher or World Language teacher.

