

Overview of the Levittown Public Schools NYS Seal of Biliteracy

In recognition of the importance of bilingualism, many states, including New York, are beginning to award a Seal of Biliteracy in formal recognition of students who have studied and attained a high proficiency in two or more language by high school graduation. The intent of a Seal of Biliteracy is to:

- Encourage the study of languages,
- Identify high school graduates with language and Biliteracy skills for employers,
- Provide universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission;
- Prepare students with twenty-first century skills, and
- Affirm the value of diversity in a multilingual and global society.

Students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy will have a seal affixed to their diplomas, which they will receive at graduation.

Three preliminary student requirements for earning the NYS Seal of Biliteracy:

- Earn an 80 or higher on the English Language Arts Regent Exam
- Maintain an 85 or higher average in English 12
- Maintain an 85 or higher average in World Language Level 4 and 5

The full list of requirements can be found in the NYS Seal of Biliteracy Handbook by following the link here: [NYS Seal Of Biliteracy Handbook](#)

Students who wish to pursue the New York State Seal of Biliteracy this year must complete the following steps, each of which will be guided by the classroom teacher.

- **Complete a student application.** Applications are available in all World Language classrooms. *Applications are due March 1st.*
- **Present a culminating project in English Research Skills class** that meets the criteria for reading writing and research established by the district's Seal of Biliteracy Committee. *Culminating project is already included as part of the advanced course curriculum.*
- **Present a culminating project in World Language class** that meets the criteria for reading writing and research established by the district's Seal of Biliteracy Committee, and that is aligned with the New York State Checkpoint C Learning Standards and the Intermediate High level of the National World Readiness Standards. *Culminating project is already included as part of the advances course curriculum.*

- **Engage in an interactive target language interview with a Seal of Biliteracy Committee panel,** during which the student must demonstrate knowledge of the project/essay topics, and proficiency in the target language. The student may be asked questions regarding the presented topics, the student's process, personal feelings about the topic and other questions the panel feels necessary to measure the student's knowledge of the topics and proficiency level.
- **Check in with their WL teacher:** Students should periodically check in with their WL teacher to make sure that they are on track with completing all requirements.

Please feel free to contact Michele Ortiz, CA for ENL, directly with any questions you may have relative to the NYS Seal of Biliteracy – Mortiz@levittownschools.com.