



State Seal of Biliteracy



STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

Piscataway Township Schools | Piscataway HS | WL/ESL Dept.





Agenda

- What is the State Seal of Biliteracy?
- Purpose of the Seal of Biliteracy
- History of the Seal of Biliteracy
- How does student demonstrate proficiency?
- Implementation timeline
- Insignia and Seal
- Questions and Concerns



What is the State Seal of Biliteracy?



A **State Seal of Biliteracy** is a designation from the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) identifying graduating high school students who are able to demonstrate proficiency in English in addition to one or more languages.

WHAT IS BILITERACY?

bilingual < biliterate



Bilingual = conversational in 2 languages

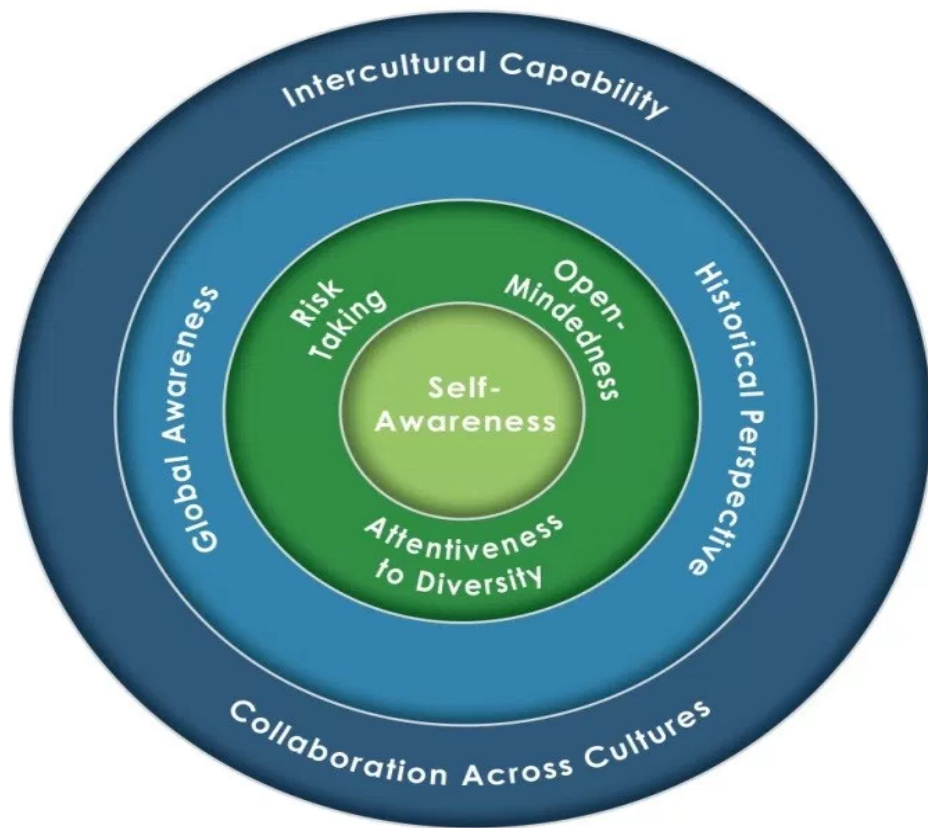
Biliteracy = the ability to speak, read, and write in two or more languages at a proficient level



Purpose of the State Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy opens up a sea of vast opportunities:

- for those pursuing higher education or joining the workforce.
- As the world increasingly becomes global, the demand for employees with bilingual, multilingual and multicultural skills has become critical.



Employers seek bilingual or multilingual individuals to:

- Access expanding markets;
- Better meet customer needs;
- Reach particular and wider ranges of audiences;
- Open a channel of communication with customers.



History of the Seal of Biliteracy

- The Seal of Biliteracy was an initiative started by Californians Together in 2008 to acknowledge and award hardworking bilingual and multilingual students.
- In 2011, it officially became legislation in California and now multiple states throughout the nation have implemented a statewide Seal of Biliteracy.



History of the Seal of Biliteracy in NJ

TIMELINE

- **January 19, 2016 signed into law by Governor Christie**
 - Legislation included the distinct implementation for the 2016-2017 school year
- 2013-2016 Pilot led by NJTESOL-NJBE & FLENJ

	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019
Districts	7	12	23	85	120	160
Certificates	185	341	727	2,015	3,579	4276



How can a student demonstrate linguistic proficiency?

Students must:

1. **Demonstrate proficiency in English by meeting English language arts graduation requirements** (or attained the appropriate cut score on the ACCESS for ELLs assessment in the case of ELLs)

AND

2. Demonstrate a linguistic proficiency level of at least **INTERMEDIATE-MID (IM)** according to the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines, or demonstrated a level deemed equivalent to IM for languages such as ASL or Native American languages.



What is intermediate – mid?

- Can be a **conversation** partner
- **Describes** and **narrates**
- **Ask/answer questions about familiar topics**
- Can handle **basic uncomplicated language** needed to take care of daily situations
- "**Creates**" **with language** (adapts and recombined learned material to express personal meaning)
- Creates language with sentences, strings of sentences and sentence connectors



Acceptable Evidence of Proficiency

- Students must demonstrate a proficiency level of Intermediate Mid in a World Language.
- Students must demonstrate proficiency in English by meeting State high school graduation requirements in English or its alternatives, including through State ELA assessments

WL Acceptable Evidence of Proficiency

- OPI(c) and WPT
- **AP WL and Culture Exam (4 or higher)**
- **AAPPL (3 or higher)**
- **STAMP (5 or higher)**
- IB (4 or higher)
- ALIRA (13 or higher)
- ASLPI (3.0 or higher)
- SLPI (Intermediate Plus or higher)

Note: Languages for which no language test is available will be reviewed on an individual basis.

ELA Acceptable Evidence of Proficiency

- State ELA Assessment
 - NJSLA ELA (9, 10, or 11)
 - SAT Critical Reading
 - SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing
 - SAT Reading
 - ACT Reading; ACT Plan Reading; ACT Aspire Reading
 - Accuplacer WritePlacer (ESL)
 - PSAT/NMSQT
 - ASVAB-AFQT
- ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 (4 or higher in all domains either tier B or C)



WHICH TEST DOES PHS USE?

- **AP WL and Culture Exam (4 or higher)**
- **AAPPL (3 or higher)**
 - The AAPPL Measure provides seamless, **realistic role-play scenarios** using high-quality audio and video that create real-world tasks for students. Test takers are greeted by a video of their teacher who guides them through their day in a Standards-based classroom.
- **STAMP (5 or higher)**
 - Avant STAMP engages students with **real-world content** that is leveled according to the **topics commonly taught at each level of instruction**. STAMP's adaptive test design adjusts to a student's level so s/he is challenged, but not overwhelmed.
- **ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI®) & Writing Proficiency Test (WPT®)**
 - assessments are appropriate for high school juniors and seniors (grades 11 & 12) OPI assesses how well a person speaks a language and the WPT is an assessment of functional writing ability in a language



TESTING WINDOW

Dec. - Jan.

2-4 HOURS



Insignia and Seal

For Transcripts: “New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy”





Questions?????



GJurado-Moran@pway.org

Glennysha Jurado-Moran

Department Chair, World Languages/ESL

Piscataway High School

100 Behmer Rd

Piscataway, NJ 08854

732-981-0700 x 2244



NJDOE Resources for awarding a State Seal of Biliteracy

- NJDOE State Seal of Biliteracy Website
 - Overview (one pager)
 - Promotional brochure
 - Acceptable Evidence of Proficiency
 - FAQs
- NJTESOL-NJBE/FLENJ Seal of Biliteracy Website
 - Promotional Videos
 - Historical Statistics and pilot program numbers



New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



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