

How Do I Know If The World Language Competency Test Is A Good Fit For Me?

If you can answer “Yes, I can do this fairly easily” to each statement in a language other than English, then you will probably be able to earn at least 1-2 credits. If you can answer “Yes, I can do this very easily” to all of the statements, then you may be able to earn 3-4 credits when you get tested:

- I can understand ideas on familiar topics expressed through phrases, short sentences, and frequently used expressions (Listening).
- I can understand the main idea and some details in simple texts that contain familiar vocabulary (Reading).
- I can exchange information with another person about familiar tasks, topics, and activities (Person-to-Person Communication).
- I can use a series of phrases and sentences to provide basic information about familiar topics (Spoken Production).
- I can write simple descriptions and short messages and request or provide information on familiar topics (Writing).

“Over 40 percent of Washington State jobs are tied to international trade, so it is critical for students to develop proficiency in English and other languages to maintain competitiveness. The bilingual skills of students for whom English is not a first or dominant language represent a tremendous potential resource to the state. Also, English students who follow long sequences of world language study and practice increase their marketability in the workplace.” OSPI

World Language Testing

SVSD will offer language assessments to students in grades 7 through 12 each winter. Students can test in multiple languages and 2 opportunities to test in each language. The initial assessment fee for each language will be subsidized by SVSD. Students will pay for the second testing attempt in a language, should they choose to test twice. Financial assistance is available for Heritage speakers or students who qualify for free/reduced priced meals.

World Language Testing Resources

For a list of languages and the corresponding assessment, go to <http://bit.ly/2S9fDr2>. Links to sample questions or tests are also provided here.

We also have a selection of prompts available to help you determine if you are ready for the test.

Registration for World Language Competency Testing

Testing and registration is available on our website ([LINK](#)) or contact your student's counselor for specific steps.

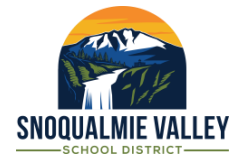


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Seal of Biliteracy

And

World Language Competency-based Crediting



Snoqualmie Valley School
District

What is the Seal of Biliteracy?

The Washington State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of world language proficiency and demonstrated achievement in English Language Arts. The Seal of Biliteracy is earned through demonstrating advanced world language proficiency through Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate testing, or through demonstrating high levels of proficiency through another competency-based test for World Language. Students must also demonstrate English Language literacy through Washington State assessments in English Language Arts.

The Seal of Biliteracy is a special notation that appears on the transcript and diploma of the graduating senior. For more details, see: <https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/resources-subject-area/world-languages/washington-state-seal-of-biliteracy>.

How Do Students Benefit from Earning the Seal of Biliteracy?

- Heritage speaking students may earn up to 4 World Language Competency-based Credits by demonstrating high levels of proficiency in their heritage language (i.e., Marshallese, Hindi, Spanish, etc.) and by fulfilling ELA graduation requirements.
- Heritage Speakers feel a sense of inclusion and pride by being recognized for their bilingual assets.
- The Seal of Biliteracy is a "value-added" earned honor posted to the student's transcript.
- Highly competitive four-year colleges and universities like to see three to four years of high school world language study, including World Language Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses.
- Students who qualify for competency-based credits for language proficiency would have time in high school for deeper study of the same language, or may gain proficiency in a different language.



How can Students Earn the Seal of Biliteracy:

Graduating high school students must meet the following criteria to be awarded the Washington state Seal of Biliteracy:

- Students must demonstrate proficiency in English by:
 - Meeting the statewide minimum graduation requirements in English
 - Meeting the state standard on the English Language Arts Smarter Balanced Assessment (Level 3 or 4)
- Students must demonstrate proficiency in one or more world languages through any one of the following three methods:
 1. Score of three or higher on a world language Advanced Placement test
 2. Score of four or higher on an International Baccalaureate test
 3. Earn four "World Language Competency-based Credits" by demonstrating proficiency in the world language at intermediate-mid level or higher based on the ACTFL aligned/OSPI approved competency exam: ALTA, STAMP 4S, Alta STAMP WS, American Sign Language Proficiency Interview. Credits/proficiency status are awarded based on lowest proficiency level (reading, writing, speaking, listening scores). See <http://avantassessment.com>.

What is World Language Competency-based Crediting?

The World Language Competency-based credit program is a way to earn high school credit for a language you already know. Students can gain world language credits without achieving the Seal of Biliteracy. The goal of Competency-based Credit (CbC) is to allow high school students who speak, read, and write a language other than English to earn world language credits by demonstrating proficiency on nationally recognized proficiency assessments. Credits earned will be noted on the transcript of students who demonstrate proficiency by completing the appropriate CbC assessment process. For more details, see:

<http://www.k12.wa.us/WorldLanguages/CompetencyBasedCredits.aspx>.

How Can I Earn SVSD World Language Competency-Based Credits:

- Students will have two opportunities to take the assessment during their K-12 journey in SVSD. Students may first take an assessment in grade 8.
- Language assessments will be offered each winter to students in grades 7-12 and be administered at their home middle or high school unless otherwise informed.
 - Detailed information and registration for the assessment is available on our website, <https://www.svsd410.org/Page/9880>, or through the student's school counseling office.
- SVSD will cover the cost of the first assessment in a language. Students will pay the fee for a second assessment in the same language. We will offer financial assistance for Heritage speakers or students who qualify for free/reduced priced meals.
- Once we receive the results, we will provide families with a copy and indicate how many credits (if any) are awarded.