



# Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy is a credential given in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by the time they graduate high school.

The Seal encourages students to learn a new language or languages while honoring the language, culture and experience students already possess. In addition, it gives future employers and post-secondary institutions definitive evidence of a student's language skills.

## Earning a Seal of Biliteracy

The State of Colorado adopted the Seal of Biliteracy as an option for high school diplomas on March 30, 2017, setting minimum criteria and asking school districts to develop a process and criteria for students to pursue the recognition. Jeffco is one of 70 Colorado districts/schools that now offer a Seal of Biliteracy, with the first students having been awarded in 2019.

All Jeffco students who meet state or district criteria in English and an additional language are eligible to receive the Seal. Interested students should contact their high school's Seal of Biliteracy team to start the process and develop an action plan for meeting the criteria by high school graduation.

Candidates may be recognized at graduation. Final recipients will receive a certificate by mail in the fall. Updated transcripts will need to be requested and will reflect the languages the student can speak, read, write, and understand.

## World Language Criteria

**Option 1:** For students who have completed coursework in a single language

**Colorado Seal of Biliteracy:** Completion of four years of high-school equivalent world language courses in a single language with an average GPA of 3.0 or higher for those classes

**Jeffco Seal of Biliteracy:** Completion of four years of high-school equivalent world language courses in a single language with an average GPA of 3.0 or higher for those classes **AND** a demonstration of oral proficiency at the intermediate-mid level

**Option 2:** For students who do not have 4 years of a WL and/or did not achieve a 3.0 GPA in that WL

A qualifying test score **that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing.**

Approved tests include the following languages: *Arabic, ASL, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish*

**OR**

For students whose language is not offered through coursework

**Option 3:** For languages without coursework **OR** a national exam as an option to meet criteria.

LTI OPI and WPT Exam



## English Criteria

The original **Colorado Seal of Biliteracy** legislation requires a qualifying test score on one of four English tests (SAT, ACT, IB, AP) in addition to meeting graduation requirements of 4 years of English with an average GPA of 3.0 or more in those classes.

Jeffco students can also meet English criteria for **Jeffco Seal of Biliteracy** by meeting graduation requirements of 4 years of English **AND one** of Jeffco's demonstrations of postsecondary workforce readiness in reading, writing and communicating.