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North Monterey County Unified  
School District

# Seal of Biliteracy for Eligible Graduating High School Seniors

Dreaming, Engaging, and Achieving Together



## WHAT IS THE SEAL OF BILITERACY?

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by North Monterey County Unified School District. California Assembly Bill 815 established the State Seal of Biliteracy to recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English.

## GOALS

By awarding the Seal of Biliteracy to graduating seniors who meet the requirements, North Monterey County Unified School District seeks to:

1

Encourage students to develop and maintain multilingual multiliterate skills

2

Prepare students with 21st Century Skills, including global awareness and multicultural literacy

3

Promote the development of language and affirm the value of diversity, and honor multiple cultures and languages in the community

4

Provide employers with a method of identifying people with bilingual and biliteracy skills



## NMCUSD MISSION

An innovative community school system, we equip preschool to adult students with the skills, knowledge and attitudes they will need to pursue their life goals responsibly and creatively in a radically changing society.

## WHAT IS BILITERACY?

Biliteracy is the ability to read and write in two languages. A biliterate individual has the ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing in two different languages.



## AWARD COMPONENTS

- ◇ Certificate
- ◇ Seal on diploma
- ◇ Medallion
- ◇ Transcript notation

## ELIGIBILITY

The Seal is awarded to students graduating from the North Monterey County Unified School District who are fluent in academic English and any other language. Students who wish to receive the Seal of Biliteracy must submit an application and demonstrate their proficiency in English and a language other than English through the following options:

### Demonstrate ENGLISH proficiency through ONE of these options:

**Option 1:** Complete all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in those classes.

**OR**

**Option 2:** Pass the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP/SBAC) in English Language Arts administered in grade 11 at or above the "standard met" proficiency level.

**OR**

**Option 3:** Pass an English AP exam with a score of 3 or higher (AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature or Composition, or AP Seminar).

**OR**

**Option 4:** Achieve a score of 480 or above on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section of the SAT.

*In addition to the requirements mentioned above, students who are classified as English learners must attain an **oral language composite score of level 4 on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC).***

**AND**

### Demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English through ONE of these options:

**Option 1:** Successfully complete a four-year course of study in a world language at the high school or higher level, attaining an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher in that course of study, and demonstrating oral proficiency in the language comparable to that required to pass an AP examination.

**OR**

**Option 2:** Pass a world language AP examination with a score of 3 or higher.

**OR**

**Option 3:** Pass a district-approved assessment language examination that, at a minimum, assesses speaking, reading, and writing in a language other than English at the proficient level or higher. NMCUSD is currently using STAMP and students must attain a score of intermediate mid (5) or higher.

*\*\*\*Ask your English or Spanish teacher for the link to sign up for the STAMP test.*

## HOW TO APPLY

Submit a Seal of Biliteracy application online. To find the link, please contact your counselor, or your school's Multilingual Learner Specialist, or go online to the North Monterey County Unified School District website.