



Policy: Siembra Leadership High School: Bilingual Cord Policy

Approved by Governing Council on: December 10, 2025

Purpose: Siembra's Bilingual Cord Program honors students who demonstrate bilingual proficiency through academic achievement and real-world application of language skills in alignment with Siembra's mission of student empowerment through project-based learning.

Scope: Siembra's Bilingual Cord Program is an internal recognition for graduating senior students who could not complete the requirements to attain the SSBB but are able to complete the requirements below in order to receive their Siembra bilingual cord. This initiative celebrates multilingualism, honors students' cultural and linguistic identities, and promotes college and career readiness for bilingual environments.

Eligibility Requirements: To earn the Siembra's Bilingual Cord, students must:

1. Successfully complete all Siembra and New Mexico graduation requirements.
2. Present their final Capstone Project bilingually to bilingual staff, community members, and family members or complete a short reflective component (written or video) describing the significance of bilingualism in their education, community, or future goals or receive a 4.7 or higher on the WIDA Access test.
3. By completing one of the options from above, it will demonstrate oral and written Spanish proficiency appropriate to high school graduate-level expectations in order to receive the bilingual certificate and cord.

Program Benefits:

- Recognition with a special bilingual cord
- Opportunity to showcase language skills to colleges, employers, and community partners

To sign up, students should reach out to their advisor





Rubric: Bilingual Capstone presentations will be evaluated using the following rubric:

Criteria	Exceeds Expectations (4)	Meets Expectations (3)	Approaching (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Oral Language Proficiency	Clear, fluent, and expressive with rich vocabulary	Mostly clear with good vocabulary use	Understandable with some errors	Frequent errors, unclear expression
Written/Visual Language Use	Highly engaging visuals with bilingual text	Clear visuals with mostly accurate language	Some errors or limited bilingual use	Lacks clarity or language consistency
Project Communication	Purpose and impact communicated effectively	Purpose communicated with clarity	Some lack of clarity	Project message unclear
Professionalism & Presentation	Highly engaging, well-prepared	Prepared and confident	Some lack of preparation	Unprepared or unclear

Timeline:

- Opt-in Deadline: November of senior year
- Bilingual Capstone Presentation Window: May COL
- Final Reflection Submission: No later than one week after Capstone presentation

