

Seal of Biliteracy 2025-26

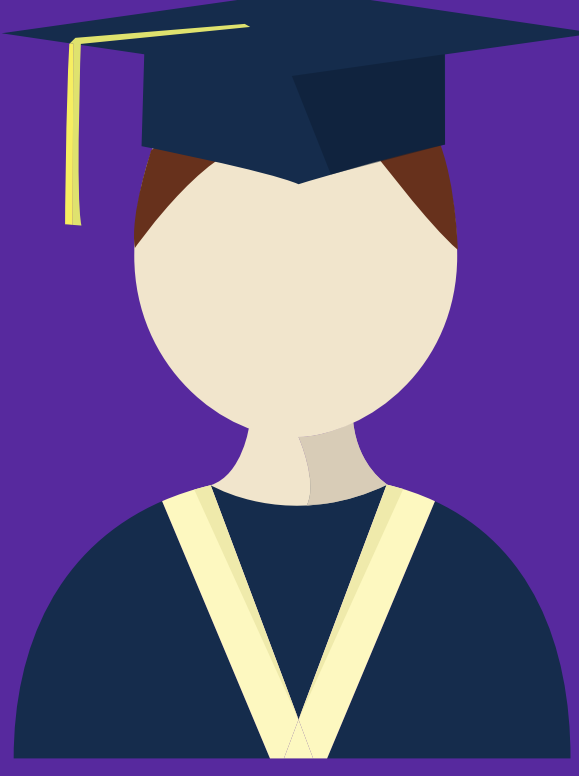
By the numbers

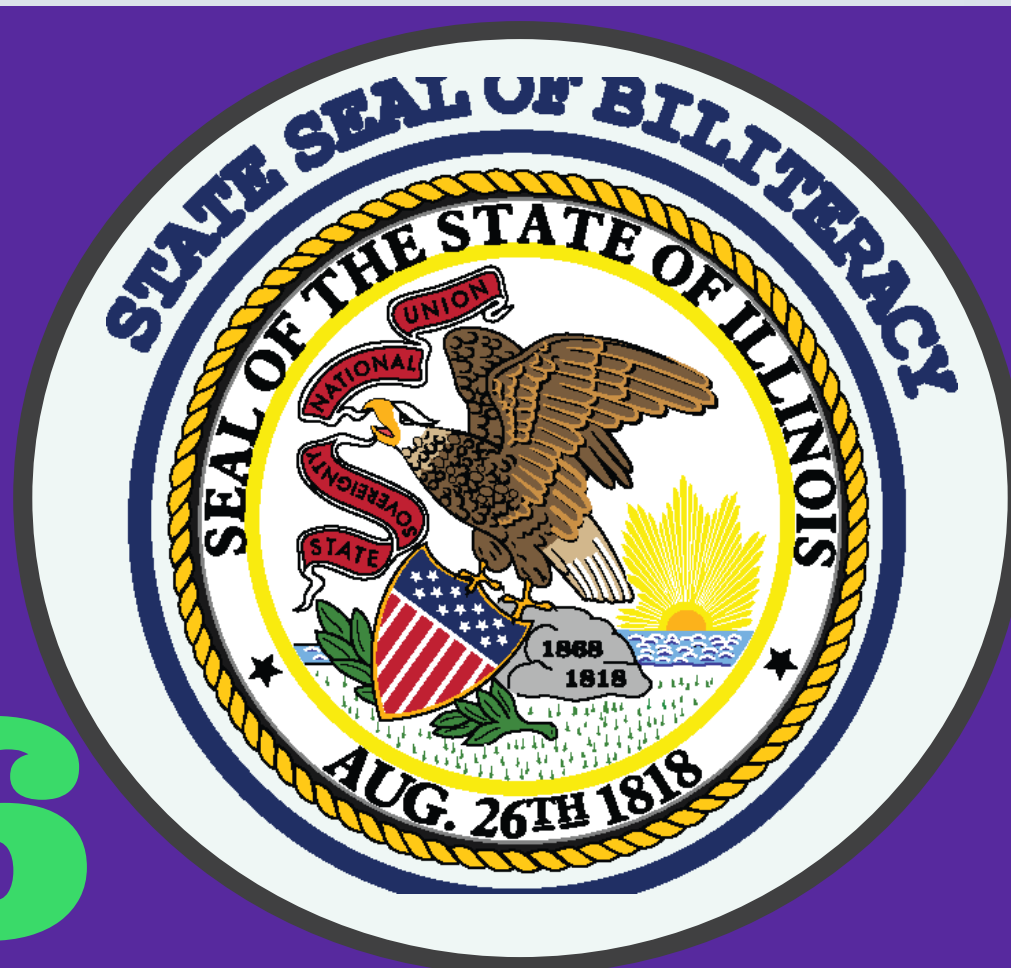
2025-2026 was District 86's tenth year implementing the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy Program.

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by their high school graduation.

207

Seals of Biliteracy earned by the **Class of 2026**, with another **64** students earning the Commendation towards the Seal of Biliteracy!

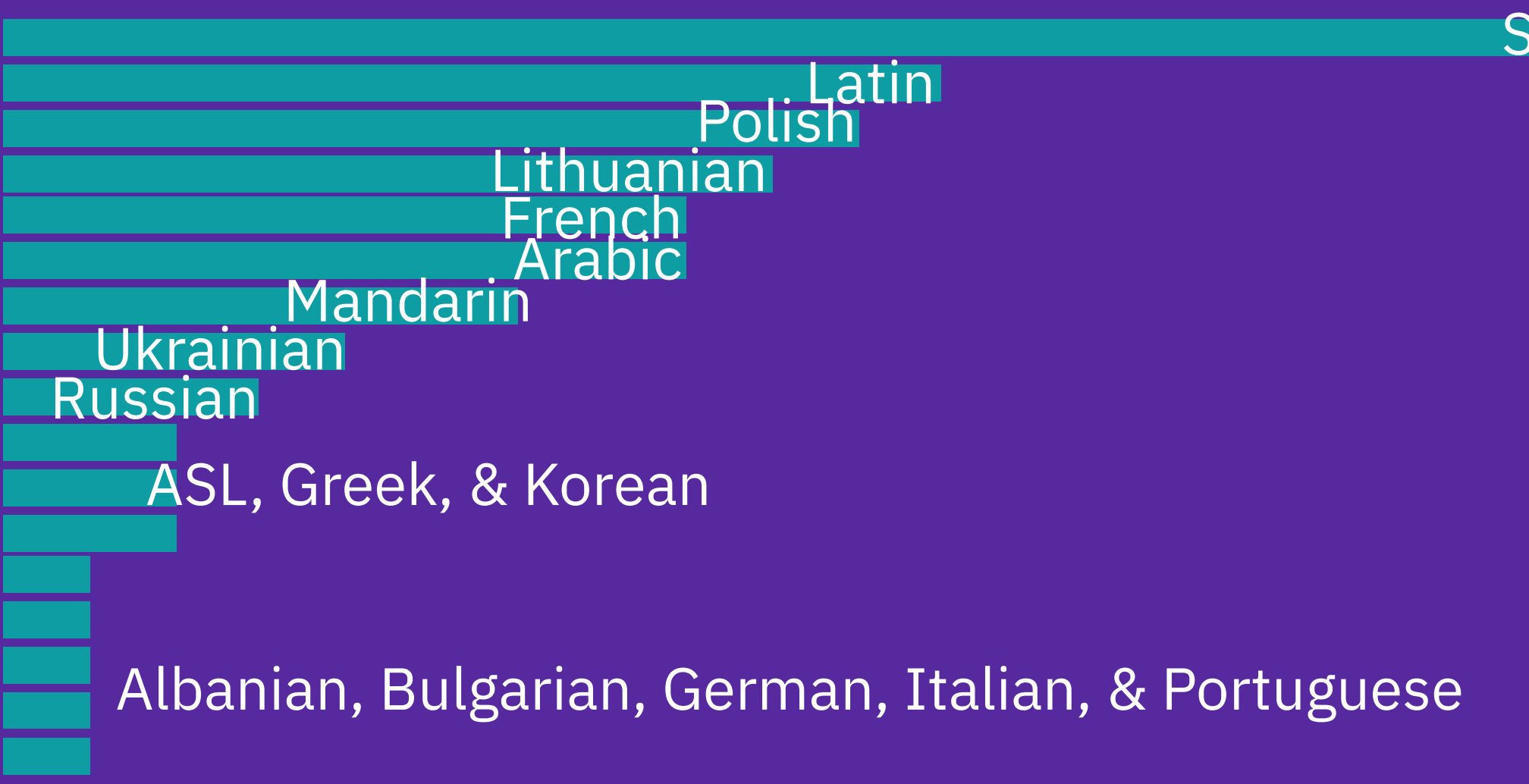




1,856

Total number of Seals awarded to D86 graduating seniors **since 2017**

In 2026, D86 awarded Seals in **17 different languages**. (Up from 14 in 2022 and 8 in 2021)



Language	Number of Seals
Spanish	17
Latin	16
Polish	15
Lithuanian	14
French	13
Arabic	12
Mandarin	11
Ukrainian	10
Russian	9
ASL, Greek, & Korean	8
Albanian, Bulgarian, German, Italian, & Portuguese	7

109

different languages can be tested in D86 to earn the Seal of Biliteracy, but most commonly:

ArabicChinese (Mandarin)FrenchGermanHindiItalianJapaneseLithuanian

KoreanLatinPolishPortugueseRussianSerbianSpanishUkrainian

ALL public AND some private Illinois colleges and universities award credits!

3 to 16 credit hours

to students who have earned the Seal (3 - *Bradley University, Elmhurst University*, 16 - *Southern Illinois University Edwardsville*)

Percentage of students who earned the Seal that were **enrolled in D86 World Languages as seniors**

~59%



14

credit hours awarded for the Seal at Western Illinois University.

12

credit hours awarded for the Seal at Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, and Southern Illinois University - Carbondale.

Seal = Free college credits = \$\$ back in your pocket!

Language learning PAYS!

The more expensive the college tuition, the greater the cost savings to you and your family!

Ex: At ISU the Seal is worth \$4,155, but at IIT it saves you \$15,495!

9

credit hours awarded for the Seal at the Illinois Institute of Technology, DePaul University,

8

credit hours awarded for the Seal at the College of DuPage, Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University, UIC and Aurora University (4-8 hours depending on language), and the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign.

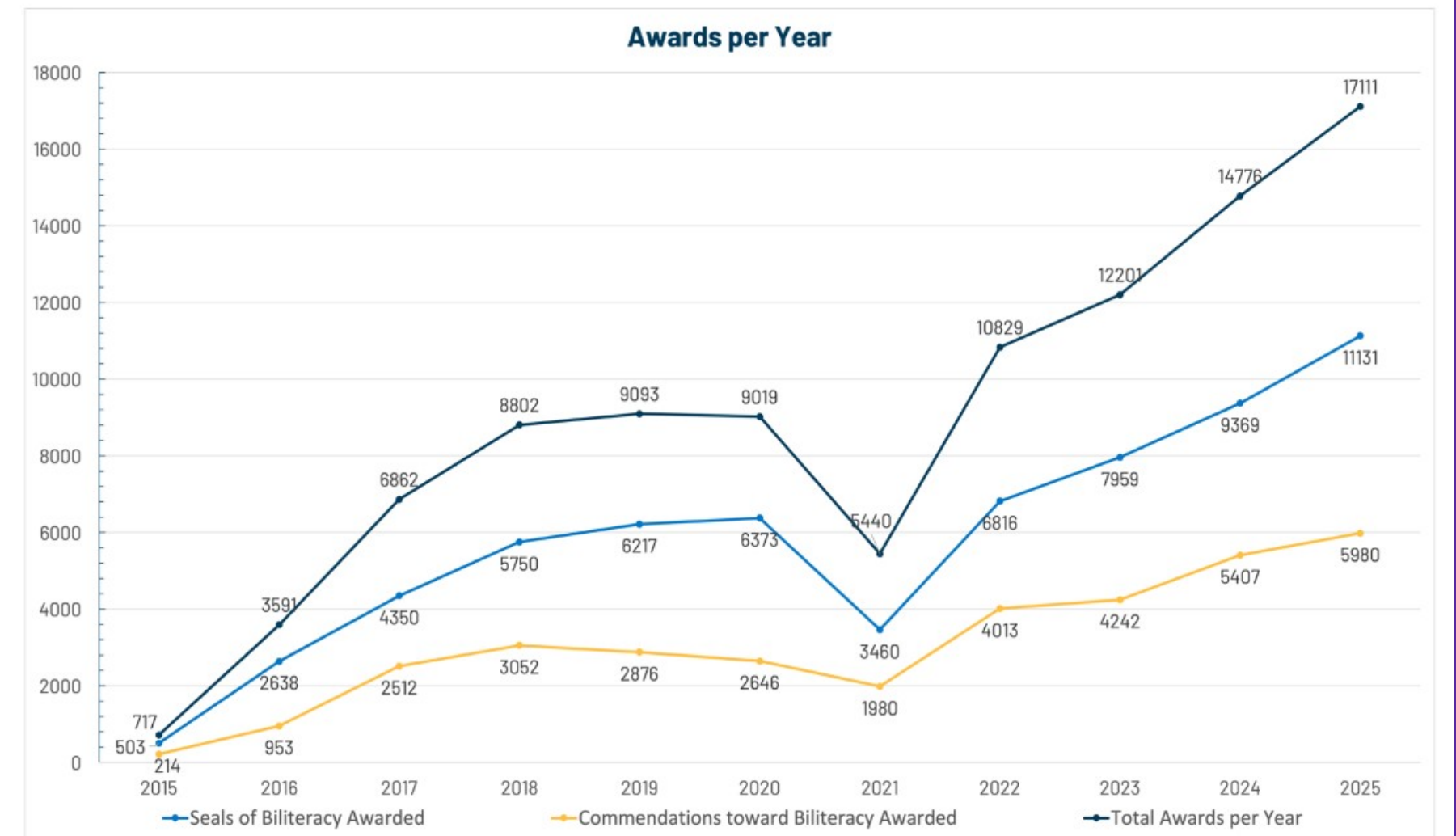
6

credit hours awarded for the Seal at the Chicago State University, Governor's State University, Northeastern Illinois University, and Benedictine University.

College language requirements

Instead of credit hours awarded, these colleges' world language graduation requirements are satisfied via the Seal: Augustana College, Loyola University

The state of Illinois awarded **11,131 Seals of Biliteracy** across **62 languages** in **139 school districts** to the Class of 2025. (ISBE Seal Data 2025)



Year	Seals of Biliteracy Awarded	Commendations toward Biliteracy Awarded	Total Awards per Year
2015	717	503	1,220
2016	3,919	953	4,872
2017	6,885	2,912	9,797
2018	8,802	3,052	11,854
2019	9,093	2,876	11,969
2020	9,019	2,646	11,665
2021	6,440	1,980	8,420
2022	10,829	4,013	14,842
2023	12,201	4,242	16,443
2024	14,778	5,407	20,185
2025	17,111	5,980	23,091

District 86 offers Seal of Biliteracy testing at least

3 times

each school year - once on the Fall testing date and twice each Spring (Feb/Mar). *Students can also qualify for the Seal with a 4 or 5 on an AP world language test.*

For More Information about the Seal of Biliteracy in District 86, visit:

 [D86 Seal of Biliteracy Homepage](#)