

# **CALIFORNIA STATE SEAL OF BILITERACY GUIDELINES**



**SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2021-2022**

## What is the California State Seal of Biliteracy?

The State Seal of Biliteracy is a seal that is placed on a student's high school diploma and transcript to recognize students who have studied and attained a high level of proficiency in two or more languages.

### Purpose

The State Seal of Biliteracy seeks to encourage students to study world languages and to embrace their native and heritage language. Earning the State Seal also provides students with the opportunity to:

- Develop language proficiency and cultural competency
- Strengthen intergroup relationships and the value of diversity
- Honor multiple languages and cultures in our community
- Certify attainment of Biliteracy in one or more languages
- Be college and career ready in a global society
- Receive recognition by colleges, universities and employers for language abilities

### Requirements

All students must meet ALL three academic requirements

1. Complete 4 years of English with a 2.0 weighted GPA or higher.
2. **Determination of English Proficiency for the class of 2022 (only):** A **Unified Score of 1131** on the English Language Arts portion of the Ren Learn assessment is required. (As per Section 69 of the Omnibus Trailer Bill, Assembly 130 which gives local districts who opted out the CAASSP test administration for the spring of 2021 to choose another local assessment).
3. **Language Proficiency Options:** Demonstrate proficiency in languages other than English by **ONE** of the following methods:
  - Take and pass an **AP Foreign Language Exam** with a score of **3** or higher
  - Complete **4 years of French or Spanish** classes with a **3.0** weighted GPA **and** pass **the oral proficiency exam** with a score of 4 or higher *\*concurrent classes qualifies*
  - Take and pass **approved test** for languages that have no AP or SAT II Test
  - Take and pass the **Mixteco oral exam** with a score of **3** or higher
  - Take and pass the **SAT II Foreign Language Exam** with a score of **600** or higher

### English Learners

Students with English not as primary language must also meet the above academic requirements.

- Show proficiency level on the ELPAC with a score of 4.

**Note:** SENIORS who do not have 4 years of foreign language classes and don't have an AP foreign language score but want to be recognized at senior award night (with a cord), you must take and pass with a minimum of 600 the SAT II subject test in the specified language by December. For more information visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/>. You may qualify for a fee waiver.

## Oral Proficiency Assessment

Students must take an oral exam in listening and speaking through the district approved test. The exams are aligned to the common proficiency guidelines for AP exams. The total test time for both parts of the exam is approximately seventy minutes. Students must receive an overall passing score of a four or higher. All scores are final, with no appeals. Scoring takes approximately 5-7 days. Group testing will take place at each school site in a lab/room. Testing date(s) to be announced. There will be no make-up dates for the exam. The MMEP Director will approve any exceptions for late exams.

## Assessment for Other Language (Mixteco)

Counselors and International Language teachers will assist in identifying students in this category and refer students to MMEP for testing. All test scores are final, with no appeals.

## Hancock College/Concurrent Classes

The UC credit for a college class is based on the LOTE level. If a College class is a LOTE 2 it will equal 2 years of high school instruction. Example French 101 and 102 are LOTE Level 3, so these courses qualify for 3 years of high school international language course work towards earning the California State Seal of Biliteracy. See sample below:

The screenshot shows a course page for 'Elementary French'. At the top, there is a green banner with a white 'E' icon and the text 'Language Other than English 2 years required, 3 years recommended'. Below this, the course title 'Elementary French' is displayed, followed by a yellow 'UC Honors' badge. Underneath, it says 'LOTE Level 3' with a green 'E' icon and 'Language Other than English'. To the right, there are options for 'Full Year' and 'Classroom-based', and a section for 'Academic Years' with buttons for '2015-16', '2016-17', '2017-18', and '2018-19'. At the bottom, there is a 'Transcript Abbreviations' section with a list: '• FRCH 102' and '• FRCH 101'. A descriptive paragraph on the left states: 'Two units (equivalent to two years, or through the second level of high school instruction) of the same language other than English (three units recommended). LOTE levels are defined by the number of years of high school instruction; e.g. LOTE 1= 1 yr.; LOTE 2 = 2 years, etc.'

## Eligibility Lists

The Data Specialist will upkeep the eligibility list and make necessary changes with input from counselors and International Language teachers. The final list will be completed and sent to the site counselors and a copy with scores will be mailed home.

## California State Seal of Biliteracy Award

Students who earn the Seal of Biliteracy will receive a certificate and an honor cord at senior honors night (blue, red & gold). A gold seal will be placed on their diploma. *State Seal of Biliteracy* will be noted on the student's diploma.

## Evaluation

The Biliteracy Committee will meet at the end of the school year to review procedures and make adjustments as needed.

## **MMEP Contacts**

Desiree Guerrero: [dguerrero@smjuhsd.org](mailto:dguerrero@smjuhsd.org)

## **School Site Committee Members**

### **Pioneer Valley High School**

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### **Santa Maria High School**

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## **CDE Resources**

The CDE SSB web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/437537>, includes information and resources for educators, parents, and students regarding the SSB program.

## California State Seal of Biliteracy

### 2021-2022 Check List

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Use Aeries to complete this form

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