Seal of Biliteracy

Tolleson Union High School District

The Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school students who achieve proficiency in English, plus at least one additional language. The seal is placed on the student's diploma and included on their transcripts. Obtaining a Seal of Biliteracy builds upon strong research about the benefits of mastery of two or more languages for individual students, and the increasing awareness of the need in our communities, state, nation, and world for people with biliteracy and cross-cultural skills.

Eligibility/Details:

- Any student may receive the Seal of Biliteracy through English Language Proficiency and Second Language Proficiency.
- Must complete all English Language Arts requirements for graduation with an overall GPA in those classes of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Students must demonstrate proficiency in both English and a second language through an assessment method or an alternative evidence model.
- Assessment Method: Students must attain the required score on a language assessment as adopted by the State Board of Education.
- Alternative Evidence Method: May be used in specified circumstances upon approval.

If a student has a primary language other than English, obtains a score of proficient or higher based on the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPs), pursuant to section 15-756, they must take the AZELLA between the grades of 9-12.

A determination of proficient for the overall proficiency level on the AZELLA Placement and Reassessment Tests requires the Total Proficiency Scale Score to be greater than or equal to 1,000 AND an Intermediate or Proficient domain proficiency level in all 4 domains: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking.

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DETAILS CONTINUED:

If a student took AZELLA and proved proficient prior to ninth grade, they must take one of the following assessments:

- Statewide High School Assessments: ACT Aspire (Grade 9) and ACT (Grade 11)
- AAPPL: ACTFL Assessment of Performance Towards Proficiency in Languages
- ACCUPLACER ESL: Language Use 82 and above, Listening 70 and above, Reading 82 and above, Sentence Skills 88 and above, WritePlacer ESL 6 and above
- ACCUPLACER Next-Generation: Reading score of 250, writing score of 250
- ACT
- AP English Language and Composition: Attain a score of 3
- AP English Literature and Composition: Attain a score of 3
- Avant STAMP 4S: Attain a score of 5 Intermediate-Mid in each category. Reading (writing, listening, speaking; composite score must be 5 or above with no category being lower than 5)
- CLEP: Analyzing and Interpreting Literature Score 50; College Composition Score 50; College Composition Modular Score 50
- Dual-Enrollment End of Course Exam/Passing Score
- EdReady from Maricopa Community Colleges: English Course Placement score 80 or above
- International Baccalaureate Language Exam: Attain a Language and Literature IB Score of 4
- SAT: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score of 480 (Includes reading, writing and language)

Any student interested in pursuing an Arizona Department of Education Biliteracy Seal on their diploma should meet with their school counselor.