



# BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

## SEAL OF BILITERACY

### Guidelines 2019-2020

#### Purpose and Rationale

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy formally recognizes students who have achieved proficiency in English and a partner language by high school graduation. The Seal of Biliteracy promotes excellence and high standards in the study of world language, respect for human differences by exposing students to other cultures and perspectives, and equity by honoring the diverse literacy skills of our English language learners.

Bedford High School seniors who meet all graduation requirements, in addition to the language requirements below, will be eligible for a biliteracy award.

| Award  | English Language Requirement  | Second Language Requirement   |
|--|---|---|
| MA State Seal of Biliteracy with Distinction | Advanced (260) on the current ELA grade 10 MCAS   | Advanced-Low proficiency as measured by an assessment approved by DESE              |
| MA State Seal of Biliteracy                  | Proficient (240) on the current ELA grade 10 MCAS; or 4.2 overall and 3.9 composite literacy score on ACCESS for ELLs | Intermediate-High proficiency as measured by a language assessment approved by DESE |
| LOC Biliteracy Achievement Award             | Proficient (240) on the current ELA grade 10 MCAS; or 4.2 overall and 3.9 composite literacy score on ACCESS for ELLs | Intermediate-Mid proficiency as measured by a language assessment approved by DESE  |

#### Proficiency Assessment in the Partner (Second) Language

- (1) In order to demonstrate proficiency in the partner language, the AAPPL, OPI/WPT and ALIRA, depending on the language assessed. The state also accepts the results of a limited number of alternative assessments [listed in the document linked here](#) and available on the World Language Department website. If you wish to have alternative evidence considered, please check the appropriate box on the application and attach the evidence.
- (2) If you are biliterate in a language other than the languages assessed by AAPPL, OPI/WPT or ALIRA (see the registration form for those languages), you will require an alternative assessment. We will support you in investigating alternative assessments. Make sure to check the appropriate box on the application.

**Registration**

***Only seniors are eligible to register for the Seal.*** Registration forms are due by **November 15, 2019.** No late applications will be accepted.

**Awards**

Students who meet the criteria for the Seal of Biliteracy will be publicly recognized in the Spring of 2020. The Seal will be a permanent part of the student's academic record and will appear on the student's official transcript and diploma. It will be the student's responsibility to send the results and/or award to colleges and universities if the student so chooses.

**Before submitting their registration, students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Intermediate Mid, Intermediate High and Advanced Low proficiency level descriptors which are available [via this link](#) and on the BHS World Language Department website.**



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## SEAL OF BILITERACY



### **REGISTRATION FOR THE SEAL OF BILITERACY**

Complete the two-page registration below with special attention to the checklist, and submit to World Language Program Director, Dana Curran, in the World Language Department Office, room E209, by **November 15, 2019.**

**IMPORTANT: Keep the preceding informational pages for your reference.**

Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_ School Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about the Seal? Why have you chosen to register?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Step 1: Demonstration of Proficiency in English**

*Please check the assessment being used (check only one):*

\_\_\_\_\_ MCAS \_\_\_\_\_ ACCESS (for ELLs)  
Year of Testing: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Testing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Step 2: Demonstration of Proficiency in Partner Language:**

Partner Language \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate response(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ I have taken an AP language exam

Year of Testing: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I have completed a proficiency test in Latin / French / Spanish in my WL class:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have met the second language requirements via my scores on the AAPPL or ALIRA as part of a World Language class at BHS. *N.B. Your proficiency level is determined by the lowest subtest score.*

Year of Testing: \_\_\_\_\_

French / Spanish AAPPL Scores:

Interpretive Reading \_\_\_\_\_ Presentational Writing \_\_\_\_\_

Interpretive Listening \_\_\_\_\_ Interpersonal Listening and Speaking \_\_\_\_\_

Latin ALIRA Score: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Based on my AAPPL/ALIRA scores, I need to retest in one or more areas. Indicate area(s) below. *N.B. Your proficiency level is determined by the lowest subtest score.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Interpretive Reading

\_\_\_\_\_ Interpretive Listening

\_\_\_\_\_ Presentational Writing

\_\_\_\_\_ Interpersonal Listening and Speaking

\_\_\_\_\_ ALIRA retake

\_\_\_\_\_ I have not completed a proficiency test as part of a World Language class at BHS. Indicate your partner language (and proficiency test) below.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Arabic, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin (simplified or traditional), Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Thai* - you will need to take the AAPPL full measure

\_\_\_\_\_ *Latin* you will need to take the ALIRA *N.B. The ALIRA test is an interpretive reading assessment only.*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Hebrew, Polish* - you will need to take the STAMP

\_\_\_\_\_ I have credentials (e.g. assessment results in a school outside the US) indicating a qualifying proficiency in a partner language; I am requesting an appointment for review with the Program Director

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not see my partner language represented and will need to seek an alternative assessment.

If you need to take or retake a proficiency test to qualify for the seal, you will need to come in one of the following dates. The assessments take between one and three hours to complete in full. Please indicate and rank your top two choices for an assessment date.

**Test times/Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, December 17 (2:30-5:30)

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, January 11 (9:00-12:00)

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, January 6 (2:30-5:30)

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday, January 15 (1:30-4:30)

***Dates will be assigned on a first come first serve basis with regard to available space in the language lab. You will be contacted after the registration deadline to confirm the date of the exam and/or to choose an alternate date.***

I have read and familiarized myself with the Seal of Biliteracy Guidelines and information included in this document and certify that the information I've provided is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_