

VISION

Students will achieve equitable academic success, and become biliterate, bicultural, and productive members of our global society.

WHAT IS BILITERACY?

The ability to speak, read, and write in two or more languages at a proficient level

AWARD COMPONENTS

- Seal on Diploma
- Transcript notation

MODELS

School districts in the following states encourage and award the Bilingualism-Biliteracy Seal:

California
Indiana
Illinois
Minnesota
New Mexico
New York
Louisiana
Texas
Washington
Florida
Oregon



NEW MEXICO DIPLOMA OF EXCELLENCE



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Bilingual and Migrant Education

A Recognition for
Eligible Graduating
High School Seniors

WHAT IS THE BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY SEAL?

The Bilingualism-Biliteracy Seal (BBS) is an award approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department given by the school district in recognition of students who have studied and attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English, by high school graduation. The BBS is a statement of accomplishment for attaining competency in two or more languages and viewed as an asset when applying for college admission or employment.

HOW DO I GET THE SEAL?

There are four (4) options available for LCPS students to earn the BBS.

Option 1: Tribal Seal

Option 2: Units of Credit + Assessment

Option 3: Units of Credit + Portfolio Presentation

Option 4: Assessment + Portfolio Presentation

Please visit your International Welcome Center Student Advisor, Counselor, Advisory Teacher, Bilingual Teacher or Modern Classical Language Teacher for more detailed information about each pathway.

WHAT LANGUAGES ARE BEING CONSIDERED?

LCPS considers all language other than English, including, but not limited to:

Spanish

French

Chinese

German

Japanese

A student may test for proficiency in another language if the test is offered outside of the district and provide proof of that language assessment to the appointed person at each high school. Any assessment taken outside of the district must be one of the assessments already approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department.

IS THERE A COST FOR THE TESTS?

The district will cover the costs of the assessments for the AP Test and the AAPPL Test. Costs for assessments other than the AAPPL or AP must be covered by the student.

Students are responsible for registration and arranging transportation to and from assessment session.

TIMELINE TO TAKE ASSESSMENTS

Students assessment scores will be considered for the BBS if the assessment was taken during high school enrollment.

BENEFITS

How does the student benefit from the Bilingualism and Biliteracy Seal?

- Students develop competency in both English and at least one other language.
- Universities will be able to identify students eligible for advanced language placement.
- Employers were seeking far more bilingual workers in 2015 than they were in 2010. *
- Seven states—Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas—have a demand for bilingual workers higher than expected. *
- Demand for bilingual employees is especially high in industries such as finance and healthcare, with employers like Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and Humana posting an exceptionally large share of bilingual jobs.*

* Source: *New American Economy* (2017).