

STATE OF MICHIGAN SEAL OF BILITERACY SOUTH LYON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

What is the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy?

- The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy has been created to recognize high school graduates who exhibit language proficiency in English and at least one additional world language.
- The Seal may be awarded to any student receiving a high school diploma, a high school certificate of completion, or a high school equivalency certificate **AND** who has demonstrated Intermediate High proficiency on acceptable world language assessments and met the English Language Arts requirements for graduation.

What is the purpose of the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy?

- The Seal was created to encourage students to learn world languages and/or maintain their native and heritage languages.
- The Seal provides employers with a way to identify individuals with strong language and biliteracy skills.
- The Seal serves as an additional tool for colleges and universities to recognize applicants' language abilities for admission and placement.

Which language domains must be assessed?

- All pertinent domains of a language must be assessed. Most languages consist of four domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- Exception: A domain that does not exist in a particular language (the speaking domain in Latin or the writing domain in Silhet, for example), does not need to be assessed.

What is the process?

- Submit Seal of Biliteracy Student Application and fees to Student Services by *February 5, 2021*.
- Applications will be reviewed by the Seal of Biliteracy committee and qualifying students will be contacted with testing information prior to February 25, 2021.
- After testing, results will be sent home to families. The names of students scoring 6 or higher (Intermediate-High or above) in all assessed domains will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Education as an applicant for the Seal of Biliteracy.
- The state will provide a foil seal for each qualifying student's diploma and he/she will be recognized as having earned the seal at graduation.