



# Connecticut Council of Language Teachers

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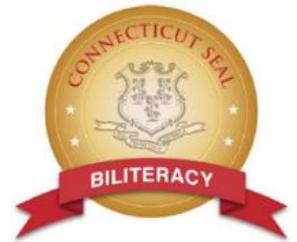
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*Corresponding Secretary*

Dear Families,

February, 2018

We are excited to announce that the State Board of Education, in conjunction with the state legislature, has approved **Connecticut's Seal of Biliteracy**. This newly established seal is in line with nearly 30 other states across the country. The designation associated with the seal attests to a student's language ability in both English and a second language. **The Seal of Biliteracy will be affixed to a student's diploma and will also be noted on his/her final transcript, which will be sent to colleges/universities.**



The Seal of Biliteracy is a testament to a student's dedication to building literacy skills in both English and a second language and how it relates to post-secondary education and the work force. The Seal of Biliteracy may also help to ensure proper placement in the right level course at the college/university level. Additionally, students may receive college credit for work that they completed in high school; check with individual colleges/universities for specific information about this. Very often the ability to communicate in both English and at least one other language equates to a higher pay rate when students join the work force.

## In order to receive the Seal of Biliteracy students must:

- Be in 10<sup>th</sup> grade or higher AND
- Complete the English language requirements from a Connecticut high school where the primary language of instruction is English AND
- Attain an Intermediate Mid proficiency\* rating in a second language.

*\*Typically, speakers and writers at the Intermediate-Mid level are able to handle a variety of tasks in everyday social situations. Conversation and writers at this level is generally focused on exchanges necessary for survival in the target culture. These topics may include personal information related to self, family, home, daily activities, interests and personal preferences, as well as physical and social needs, such as food, shopping, travel, and lodging.*

**The seal is designed to enhance your child's educational credentials and will not impact your child's graduation status.** If you have any questions about the Seal of Biliteracy, please visit [http://www.ctcolt.org/pages/Seal\\_of\\_Biliteracy.asp](http://www.ctcolt.org/pages/Seal_of_Biliteracy.asp)

**Eligibility:**

All students in levels 4 and higher are eligible for testing, which will take place the first week of April in language classes.

**COST**

**AAPPL:** [www.AAPPL.org](http://www.AAPPL.org) to do a demo

- Students need to score I-3 or higher on each of the four components to be awarded the Seal of Biliteracy
- All 4 tests cost \$20 in total (\$5 or \$10 per section if student needs to retake)
- **Retakes:** Available two months after original testing date

**Payment:**

Please pay by check to SHS (\$20) by March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We strongly encourage all students in level 4 classes to take this assessment as they have been preparing for a proficiency test for real-world applications of the language. Please feel free to contact your child’s language teacher if you need assistance with the cost of this test. This is the first year that the Seal will be implemented statewide and the physical Seal will be adhered to all diplomas. We would love to see the Class of 2018 and 2019 well represented.

Sincerely,

Stonington High School World Language Teachers

Lani Laroco	<a href="mailto:LLaroco@Stoningtonsschools.org">LLaroco@Stoningtonsschools.org</a>
Nori Lembree	<a href="mailto:NLembree@Stoningtonschools.org">NLembree@Stoningtonschools.org</a>
Lea Graner Kennedy	<a href="mailto:LKennedy@Stoningtonschools.org">LKennedy@Stoningtonschools.org</a>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like my child to have the opportunity to take a test to demonstrate their language use and have the Seal of Biliteracy added to their transcripts if they achieve intermediate mid or higher.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like my child to do an alternative assignment.

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

Payment of \$20 in Check to SHS