



# Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy and Commendation toward Biliteracy

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## Two Levels of State Recognition

- The **State Seal of Biliteracy** is a recognition given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated a **high level of proficiency** in English **and** in reading, writing, listening and speaking in another language.
  - The **State Commendation toward Biliteracy** is a recognition given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated **significant progress** toward achieving a high level of proficiency in English and in reading, writing, listening and speaking in another language.
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# Qualifications for the Seal

- Demonstrate proficiency in English
    - Meets or exceeds standards on the Reading, Writing and Language portions of SAT (480)
    - ACCESS for ELLs Composite score of 4.8
  - Demonstrate proficiency in another language
    - Composite score equivalent to “intermediate high” or higher on the 2012 Proficiency Guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL)
      - [Advanced Placement \(AP\) Examination](#) (4 or 5)
      - OR
      - ACTFL Assessment of Performance Towards Proficiency in Languages ([AAPPL](#))
        - Languages for the AAPPL: Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish
      - OR
      - Examinations aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
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# Qualifications for the Commendation

- Demonstrate proficiency in English
    - Meets or exceeds standards on the Reading, Writing and Language portions of SAT
    - ACCESS for ELLs Literacy score of 3.5
  - Demonstrate proficiency in another language
    - Composite score equivalent to “intermediate low” on the 2012 Proficiency Guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL)
      - [Advanced Placement \(AP\) Examination](#) (Score of 3)
    - OR
    - ACTFL Assessment of Performance Towards Proficiency in Languages ([AAPPL](#))
    - OR
    - Examinations aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
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# What can the Seal do for you?

- You will be certified biliterate!
  - College scholarships
  - College credit
    - Illinois public universities, by state law, are required to provide university credit for Seal recipients.
  - Increased marketability for employment
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# Application Process & Timeline

1. Submit an [intent to apply](#) for the Seal. (registration form for this meeting.) ✓
  2. Attend one of the informational meetings. ✓
  3. Take the appropriate assessment: The AAPPL will be given in all WCL classes during 2nd semester.
  4. For those students who are not currently in a WCL class and for those who would like to test in a language we do not teach, the [AAPPL](#) will be given **February 3, 2024**; registration opens after Thanksgiving, and the deadline to register is before Winter Break.)
  5. Fill out the [online application](#) no later than **March 22, 2024**. (The Seal can be indicated on your transcript at the time that you earn it, and the physical Seal will be placed on your diploma upon graduation.)
  6. If you take an AP exam senior year and your score qualifies you for the Seal/Commendation, you must apply within 2 weeks of release of your AP score. This year the deadline is August 5, 2024.
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# Costs & Tips for AAPPL

## Costs of exams

- AAPPL as part of your WCL class: no cost
- AAPPL for other languages and/or if you are not currently in a WCL course: \$30
  - [Preparation tips for students](#)
  - [Demo assessments](#) (Use Form B)

OR

- AP (\$102.50)

OR

- ALIRA (Latin) (\$20)
  - Alternate assessment for languages not covered by the exams listed above.
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# Questions

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