Testing for the Seal of Biliteracy

This document is meant to provide quick and easy information when testing for the Seal of Biliteracy. However, this document is not to be used as the official testing guide. Please refer to the Administrative Procedures for the official guideline,
https://www.wcsdpolicy.net/pdf_files/administrative_regulations/5129_Reg-Seals_Certs-v1.pdf

Which test should my students take?

- STAMP 4S- In order to earn the Seal students must earn a score of 5 or higher in all four domains.

  OR

- Pass the Advanced Placement (AP) world language exam with a score of 3 or higher.

  OR

- Pass the International Baccalaureate (IB) world language exam with a score of 4 or higher.

  If a language test is not offered by STAMP 4S, the first option for testing students is to use the Avant STAMP WS (WorldSpeak) test. If Avant does not offer the test, only then, can schools request to take the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). The OPI should be used as our last option.

When should I order the tests?

- The STAMP 4S test needs to be ordered two weeks in advance of the testing date.
- The STAMP WS test needs to be requested one month prior to testing.
- The OPI can be ordered by the school site. The testing availabilities are determined by testing company (Language Testing International). It is recommended that you start the process one month in advance.

How much does the test cost?

- The cost of the STAMP 4S test is $24 but a school could charge up to $50 for administrative fees.
- The cost of the STAMP WS is $24.
- The cost of the OPI is $150.

What are the testing regulations?

- The Seal of Biliteracy test may only be taken a total of 2 times. Any student retaking the test (STAMP, AP, IB) must take the test in a different semester from the first time he/she tested. Students only need to retake the portion of the test in which they did not meet the minimum score.
- Students must be in their junior or senior year in order to take the Seal of Biliteracy test, unless they are enrolled in a AP or IB course.
- Students must take the test at a school site. They may not take the test from home or without the supervision of licensed teacher.

When should students test?

- Schools should offer multiple testing options for students who wish to test. However, the testing dates for each school are site-based decisions.
- The testing window opens the Monday after Fall Break and closes the Friday before Spring Break in order for seniors to provide enough time to receive the scores and data for graduation recognition.

What testing equipment is needed?

- The STAMP tests require a computer, microphone, speaker/headset.
- The OPI requires a computer with a webcam and/or a telephone.

What happens after the tests are submitted?

- The STAMP tests could take up to two weeks before the scores are posted. The OPI can take 4-6 weeks to return.
- Twice a year, the scores are posted to Infinite Campus. Once a student has all requirements for the Seal of Biliteracy posted in Infinite Campus, the SoBL will automatically be applied to the student's transcripts.

Please contact Melissa Carson, mcarson@washoeschools.net 775-861-1245, for more information.