

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?

- ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL), Form B. In order to earn the Seal students must test using Form B and earn a score of I-4 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 AAPPL, the first option for testing students is to use the Avant 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 AAPPL test can be ordered and received in the same day that the test is offered.
- Avant WorldSpeak 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 AAPPL test is \$20 (\$5 for each section) but a school could charge up to \$50 for administrative fees.
- The cost of the Avant WorldSpeak is \$50.
- 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 (AAPPL, Avant, AP, IB) must take the test in a different semester from the first time he/she tested. Additionally, any student retaking the test must retake the entire test.
- Besides being in high school, there is no age requirement for testing, but only testing seniors is highly recommended.
- Students must take the test at a school site. They may not take the test from home or without the supervision of a LTI certified proctor.

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 closes the Friday before Spring Break for seniors to provide enough time to receive the scores and data for graduation recognition.

What testing equipment is needed?

- The AAPPL and AVANT WorldSpeak 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 AAPPL and Avant WorldSpeak test 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 students' names will be added to the official WCSD list of Seal of Biliteracy recipients. The schools will be notified in May.
- Registrars will receive a copy of the list along with the sticker seals that should be put on student diplomas.

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