

Community Unit School District 303

Dear Students & Parents/Guardians,

St. Charles CUSD 303 honors qualifying students with the Seal of Biliteracy. This seal is to recognize students who demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English and another language. Students must meet the state approved proficiency level on both state approved English and foreign language assessments. Applying for this recognition is voluntary and the families are responsible for the cost associated with taking the qualifying assessments. Once the student has demonstrated proficiency in English and another language, the designation will be added to the student's transcript and affixed to the diploma upon graduation. Illinois school code requires each public university and community college in the state of Illinois to accept the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to two years of foreign language coursework taken in high school. Furthermore, it also requires Illinois public universities and community colleges to establish criteria to translate a State Seal of Biliteracy into course credit based on foreign language course equivalencies. Students are required to request this opportunity from the university/community college they attend.

In order to earn the Seal of Biliteracy, each student must demonstrate proficiency in English and another language during high school. Students who approach the criteria but do not meet it may be eligible for the Commendation toward Biliteracy. The table below provides information about the qualifying tests and scores a student must achieve.

Assessments	Cost of Assessment	Language(s)	Seal of Biliteracy Minimum Qualifying Score	Commendation toward Biliteracy Minimum Qualifying Score
Advanced Placement (AP) Language and Culture exam		Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish	4	3
Advanced Placement (AP) Latin		Latin	4	3
ACTFL (AAPPL) Measure	\$30.00	Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Thai	I-5 (form B) (for all four components)	I-1 (for all four components)
ACTFL (ALIRA)	\$30.00	Latin	I-5 (form B)	I-1
STAMP4S	\$30.00	Hebrew, Korean, Polish	Intermediate High	Intermediate Low
ACCESS for ELLs		English	4.8 composite	3.5 literacy (reading + writing average)
ACT		English	18 on the English Test or 21 composite score	
SAT		English	Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) score of 540 or higher (480 for 2018 graduates)	

For freshman, sophomores, and juniors, AP Exam scores can be used to demonstrate proficiency, and the AAPPL test may not be required. If a senior has taken an approved assessment in previous years and met the minimum criteria, that score can be used to demonstrate proficiency.

The ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL), the ACTFL Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment (ALIRA) and the Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP4S) will be administered by District 303. AAPPL Measure is comprised of four components: Interpretive Listening, Interpretive Reading, Interpersonal Listening and Speaking, and Presentational Writing.

The AAPPL Measure is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and Thai. Additional information can be found at <http://aappl.actfl.org/>.

The ALIRA measures the student's ability to read for comprehension a variety of Latin-language texts. Additional information can be found at <http://www.languageTesting.com/alira-the-actfl-latin-interpretive-reading-assessment>.

The STAMP4S is an adaptive test that measures Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The STAMP4S is available in Hebrew, Korean, Polish. Additional information can be found at <https://avantassessment.com/stamp4s>.

The tests will be given on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 in the LRC. Students should report to the LRC at the start of first period for the test, which may last through fourth period. Students who miss lunch will be given the opportunity to eat following the test.

At this time, other languages are not available through proficiency exam in District 303, but if you have been attending a school outside of District 303 for another language, it is possible for your school to provide verification of the required language proficiency level.

Please see <http://www.isbe.net/grants/pdf/ethnic-fl-progs15-16.pdf> for ISBE approved school.

Included with this letter is an Intent to Participate and Proficiency Exam Registration forms. Any student interested in attaining the Seal of Biliteracy (or Commendation toward Biliteracy) should complete the Intent to Participate form. Only students wanting to take a proficiency examination through District 303 should fill out the Proficiency Exam Registration form. Both forms can be turned in to the Assistant Principal for Instructional Programs at your home high school.

Please consider applying for this special recognition. If you have any questions, please ask your school counselor, foreign language/ELL teacher, or the Assistant Principal for Instructional Programs at your home high school.

Sincerely,



Renee Reynolds
Assistant Principal - Instructional Programs
St. Charles North High School



Jim Richter
Assistant Principal - Instructional Programs
St. Charles East High School

Seal of Biliteracy

Intent to Participate

(All interested students should fill out)

I have received information regarding the Seal of Biliteracy offered by the state of Illinois. By signing below, I submit my intent to participate in testing to achieve the Seal of Biliteracy from the state of Illinois. I understand I will be notified of the testing date and procedures that will occur during second semester. I also understand I will have to pay a \$30 fee, per test, to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy through an exam other than an AP exam.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

High School: _____

Grade: _____

Current Language Class (if any): _____

Current Foreign Language Teacher (if any): _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this notice of Intent to Participate for the Seal of Biliteracy to the Assistant Principal of Instructional Programs, in the Main Office of your high school, by **Wednesday, March 7, 2018**.

Seal of Biliteracy

Proficiency Exam Registration

(Fill out only if interested in testing on 3/20/18)

Student Name _____

Student ID _____ High School _____

Please select the language (s) in which you would like to take the proficiency exam:

- _____ Arabic
- _____ Chinese
- _____ English
- _____ French
- _____ German
- _____ Hebrew
- _____ Hindi
- _____ Italian
- _____ Japanese
- _____ Korean
- _____ Latin
- _____ Polish
- _____ Portuguese
- _____ Russian
- _____ Spanish
- _____ Thai

The cost of each proficiency test is \$30. Please include cash or check, made out to CUSD 303, and return this completed form by **Wednesday, March 7** to the Assistant Principal for Instructional Programs, in the Main Office of your high school.