



What is the New Hampshire Seal of Biliteracy?

The New Hampshire Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a state, school district or individual school in recognition of students who have attained a high level of proficiency in English and at least one other world language by high school graduation. By offering the Seal, schools clearly state that mastery of two or more world languages is a critical skill for their graduates. This national award has been adopted by 40 other states across the country.

The Seal of Biliteracy acknowledges students who have dedication to building literacy skills in both English and a second language, an incredible accomplishment. Multilingual students are more prepared for post-secondary education and the workforce. The Seal of Biliteracy may also help to ensure proper placement in a world language course at the college/university level. Many colleges and universities throughout the country recognize the Seal of Biliteracy and offer world language credits to students who earn this distinction. Specific information regarding the Seal of Biliteracy should be clarified directly with individual colleges and universities during the enrollment process. Globally, bilingualism equates to a higher pay rate and more career opportunities in the US and abroad for students joining the workforce.

Individual schools and districts decide how to implement the award, which can take the form of a seal that appears on the student's diploma and/or a notation on the official transcript and graduation program. It can be accompanied by a medal, certificate, graduation cord or other regalia at the discretion of the school. All student awardees will also be issued state-level award certificates.

To achieve this distinction students must meet all of the standards below:

- Complete all of the English language requirements from a New Hampshire high school
- Demonstrate English proficiency:
 - SAT with a score ≥ 480 on the evidence-based Reading/Writing (ERW) section of test; or
 - ACCESS for ELLs ® overall composite score of ≥ 4.5
- Demonstrate proficiency in a world language other than English:
 - Attain proficiency rating on any of the language tests outlined in the student application.

If you have any questions:

Email: NHSeal@nhawlt.org OR visit [NH Seal of Biliteracy website](https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/commissioner/national-seal-biliteracy) @
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