

NJ Seal of Biliteracy Testing for 2025

1. What is the New Jersey State Seal of Biliteracy?

The New Jersey Department of Education State Seal of Biliteracy identifies graduating high school students who are able to demonstrate proficiency in English in addition to one or more world languages. The State Seal of Biliteracy certifies that a high school graduate has:

1. Demonstrated proficiency in English by meeting English Language Arts graduation requirements or attained the appropriate cut score on the ACCESS for ELLs assessment (for English Language Learners); and
2. Demonstrated a linguistic proficiency level of at least Intermediate Mid according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines, or demonstrated a level deemed equivalent to Intermediate Mid for languages such as American Sign Language or Native American languages.

2. What are the requirements to take the test?

The BHPRSD uses the ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL Test) for Spanish, French and Italian. To be recommended to take the Seal of Biliteracy test in Spanish, French, and/or Italian students must:

A. Be a senior who has met his/her/their graduation requirement in Language Arts (or a junior in a level 4 BHP World Language program) AND

B. Be recommended by the current World Language teacher in Spanish, French or Italian and be in the 3rd or 4th year of the BHPRSD program and meet these requirements:

1. Be a current senior in level 3 Spanish, French or Italian, and be recommended by the level 3 teacher, by having a final grade of an **A in level 2 and an A or B in marking period 1 of level 3.** The district will pay for the test.
2. Be a current senior in level 4 Spanish, French or Italian, and be recommended by the current level 4 teacher and have a grade of a **C or above in marking period 1 of level 4.** The district will pay for the test.

3. Be a current or former English Language Learner student in the BHPUSD and be a senior who **scored a 4 or better on Tier B or C of the ACCESS for MLLs 2.0 in all four domains (in their junior year)**. The district will pay for the test.

OR

4. Be recommended by the current counselor and meet the following requirements:

a. Evidence should show that the student is a **native speaker of the language** (the language is spoken at home, registration information shows the home language is not English etc.). The district will pay for the test.

3. What if a student is NOT enrolled in a world language course in the BHPUSD but speaks Spanish, French, Italian or another language at home?

In order for a student to test who is NOT enrolled in a world language course, that student must be a senior who has passed his or her Language Arts graduation requirement and be **identified by his or her school counselor who is familiar with the student's native language**. School counselors should assess the students interest and level of preparation and if the students' language is offered by the AAPPL or the OPI/WPT. See below:

a. What other languages are AAPPL tests available for?

Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

b. What other languages are OPI/WPT tests available for?

Albanian, Amharic, Bangla, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Cantonese, Croatian, Dari, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Hebrew, Hindi, Malayalam, Pashto, Polish, Russian, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese, Yoruba

4. When is the deadline for recommendations for students testing?

The deadline for teachers AND counselors to submit names to the World Language Supervisor (Ms. Shelly) is December 13, 2024.

5. How much does the AAPPL test cost?

The cost of all 4 parts of the AAPPL is \$20. The district pays for the test for all students.

6. How much does the OPI/WPT cost? (students must take both parts to earn the Seal)

The cost of both parts of the test is \$55. The district pays for the tests for all students.

The administration of the OPI/WPT tests includes setting up an appointment with the oral testing administrator for the oral interview. School counselors assist in proctoring these tests.

7. When will the testing take place?

This year's testing dates are tentatively the week of January 28th, 2025.

8. Where will the testing take place?

Testing will take place in person in each school in the LMC in the morning session from 7:30 am - 10:15 am. World Language teachers will proctor. Students will take the AAPPL test on their chromebooks and headsets will be available. Students taking the OPI/WPT test will be scheduled to test with their counselor during the school day no later than January 17th.

9. What if a student wants to take 2 tests in 2 different languages?

We will coordinate ample time for the student to take both tests.

10. Where can I find information about the NJ Seal of Biliteracy Program?

<https://www.state.nj.us/education/aps/cccs/wl/biliteracy/>

11. Any questions about the Seal of Biliteracy testing program in the BHPRSD can be directed to a student's current World Language teacher or Ms. Shelly, District Supervisor of World Languages at gshelly@bhprsd.org.