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# **The Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy**

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# Seal of Biliteracy - Overview



- First adopted in 2011 in California; currently 36 states plus the District of Columbia have adopted it. CT in 2017.
- Affixed to a diploma awarded to “a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in English and one or more foreign languages”
- Tests students’ proficiency in writing, reading, speaking and listening in a second language

# SEAL of Biliteracy - Requirements

## Earning the Seal of Biliteracy

*ALL* Connecticut students are eligible to earn the Seal of Biliteracy; students must be in grades 10, 11, or 12 to qualify. Both native and non-native speakers of English need to provide comparable evidence of English language proficiency. The language performance should be demonstrated in both social and academic use of the language, in all modes of communication.

## **The two academic requirements below must be met.**

1. Students must complete all English language arts requirements for graduation.
2. Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English at a level comparable to Intermediate Mid on the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines as demonstrated through **one** of the methods listed on the next page in Grade 10 or later.

**Source:** *CT COLT Seal of Biliteracy Eligibility Requirements*

# Why is the Seal a priority for Granby?

- Attainment of this level of proficiency in a second language aligns with our GMHS Learning Expectation 2 ***Write, revise, and communicate effectively for various purposes/audiences***
- Allows students to show colleges & employers their language proficiency
- Guides PLC work to focus on path to proficiency
- Provides incentive for students to continue studying languages
- CSDE “encourages district participation in this initiative”
- 35 districts in CT offering; increasing each year

# Timeline

All seniors enrolled in level 4 or AP will take it on Oct. 23-24 in their language class.

Results usually take 2 weeks (writing and speaking are rated by humans).  
Allows for results to be included on college applications.

All juniors in level 4 or above would take it in the spring (date TBD)

Seniors who score Intermediate 3 or higher and place eligible to receive the Seal will receive it in June and it will appear on their diploma.

# Seal of Biliteracy

