Benefits of the *Seal* of *Biliteracy*:

The benefits for the students who receive the *Seal of Biliteracy* award are many. First of all, earning this distinction encourages our students to develop the skills they need in order to be prepared to become successful in a multicultural, multilingual world.

Secondly, this award has created a renewed interest in studying world languages at our high schools. Additionally, the *Seal of Biliteracy* allows our students to affirm the value of diversity in a multicultural society as well as in our community.

Finally, the demand for job-seeking employees to be fluent in more than one language is increasing in California and throughout the world. Therefore, preparing our students to become bilingual and bi-literate is one of our top priorities.

The State *Seal of Biliteracy* is awarded following a review of the student qualifications in accordance with the state-established criteria.

Furthermore, the San Bernardino City Unified School District will affix a state of California *Seal of Biliteracy* stamp on each of the recipients' diploma as an indicator of their accomplishment.



Learning, Achieving, Succeeding!

Secondary English Learner Programs Department

Welcoming Resource Center 781 West 2nd Street San Bernardino, CA 92410 (909) 891-1007

Ellie.Legarda@sbcusd.k12.ca.us



Learning, Achieving, Succeeding!



Proudly Presents: *The Seal of Biliteracy Award*





Important Information:

The State of California *Seal of Biliteracy* (SSB) award became effective on January 1, 2012. Currently, California is the first state in the nation to honor high school seniors who are proficient in one or more languages other than English.

SBCUSD began awarding the *Seal of Biliteracy* in July, 2012 to high school graduating students who demonstrated proficiency in speaking, reading and writing in one or more languages other than English which include Spanish, French and Chinese.

In August, 2012, San Bernardino City Unified School District certified and recognized <u>72</u> high school graduates with the State *Seal of Biliteracy* Award.

In August, 2013, the number of recipients doubled thanks to the continued effort and collaboration between the district and the high schools in promoting bilingualism and bi-literacy as well as to prepare our high school seniors to become successful for the 21st century global careers and post -secondary education. The number of Seals given have increased every year. In 2018 <u>445 students</u> received the award districtwide.

Students who are identified as candidates for the *Seal of Biliteracy* receive a special medallion to be worn at their graduation ceremony. Students who are certified *Seal of Biliteracy* recipients will also receive a *Seal of Biliteracy* insignia on their diploma.



Seal of Biliteracy Criteria:

In order to receive the *Seal of Biliteracy* award, the student must demonstrate:

1. Successful completion of **English** course requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average (GPA) of **2.0 or above** in those classes.

2. English Language Assessment—11th grade CAASPP score of 3-Met Standard or 4-Exceeded Standard

3. English proficiency on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)- Only applicable to students identified as English learners.

4. **Proficiency in one or more languages other than English** as demonstrated in **one** of the following methods:

- a. Score of **3** or higher on an **Advanced Placement (AP)** exam in a world language;
- b. Score of **4** or higher on an **Interna tional Baccalaureate (IB)** exam in a world language
- c. Successful completion of a district A-G ap proved **four-year course of study** in the same **world language** with an overall grade point average (GPA) of **3.0** or above in those classes; and demonstration of **oral proficiency** in the language comparable to the AP or IB exam.
- d. Score of **600** or above on the Scho lastic Assessment Test **(SAT) II** in a world language.
- e A score of "5" or higher on the district's AVANT test in all language domains.

If you or your student believe that he or she may qualify to receive the *Seal of Biliteracy* award, please speak to the teachers or counselors at the school to obtain additional information about meeting the requirements to receive this special recognition.



For information, please contact:

Secondary English Learner Programs Department

Welcoming Resource Center 781 West 2nd Street San Bernardino, CA 92410 (909) 891-1007

Ellie.Legarda@sbcusd.k12.ca.us