



**HINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL**  
**SEAL OF BILITERACY**

**PURPOSE**

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award made by a local district to recognize a student who has attained proficiency in English and one or more world languages by high school graduation. The recognition of attaining biliteracy becomes part of the high school transcript and diploma for these students. The Seal serves to certify attainment of biliteracy for students, employers, and universities. It is a statement of accomplishment that helps to signal evidence of a student's readiness for career and college, and for engagement as a global citizen.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

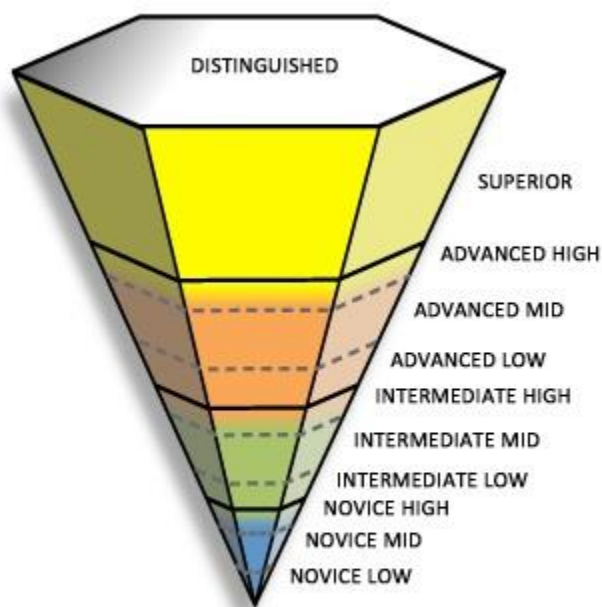
In order to earn the Seal of Biliteracy, a student must demonstrate proficiency corresponding to at least the Intermediate Mid level on the ACTFL proficiency scale.

Students can demonstrate proficiency by:

- Earning one of the following distinctions on an examination of English language proficiency
  - a score in the Proficient or Advanced range on the ELA MCAS exam
  - a score of at least 4 on an ACCESS exam (for ELL students only)

AND

- Earning one of the following distinctions on an examination on a second language
  - A score of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in the language
  - A score of at least level 5 on a STAMP test (Spanish, French, and Chinese)
  - A score of at least level I-3 on the ALIRA test (Latin only)



Students wishing to apply for the Seal in a language not offered at Hingham High School may take an alternative test as approved by the director of the Foreign Language Department (for German, Portuguese, Russian, Hebrew, or Italian) or, if no test is available, may submit a portfolio demonstrating proficiency in the language.

## **AWARDS**

- Silver Seal - Intermediate Mid proficiency in English and partner language
- Gold Seal - Intermediate High proficiency in English and partner language
- Platinum Seal - Advanced Low (or higher) proficiency in English and partner language

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Applications are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications can be submitted to Mrs. Pollard, Foreign Language Department Director, in the main office of Hingham High.
2. Examinations must be taken at HHS during designated hours. Examinations will be held on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> in the HHS language lab. Examinations will begin promptly at 2:45 pm.
3. Awards will be distributed at Junior Awards Night and Senior Awards Night. Students will be recognized with a certificate of achievement, a pin to be worn at graduation, and a special designation on their transcript.