



Notice date: [Date of notice here]

Dear [Name of student here],

Thank you for registering for a Bilingual Seals testing session. We are very thrilled to have you as a Minnesota Bilingual Seals candidate. Please review the following information carefully.

**Your testing session date:** [Date here]

**Time:** [Testing time here]

**Location:** [Testing location here]

**Language of your test:** [Target language here]

Please arrive at [exact time here] to check in and get ready for the test.

**What to bring:**

- Student ID or another photo ID (e.g., state ID, driver's license, or passport)
- Water bottle
- Snacks
- Pencils, pens, pencil sharpener, and erasures (if you will be handwriting)
- Language specific keyboard (if needed)

**What NOT to bring:**

- Scratch papers (scratch papers will be provided as needed at the testing site)
- Dictionary books or any educational materials

**What you should know:**

- Your test is not a timed test. You can progress at your own pace. Estimated time for completion varies. Generally, it will take about 2-4 hours or even longer for some students.
- You will take a test in four different modes: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. A headset with a microphone will be provided. If you prefer to use your own headset, feel free to bring it.
- On the test, you will be asked to demonstrate your language proficiency in practical contexts. The test items will not ask you to explain vocabulary and grammar, or fill in the missing parts in a

paragraph. You will rather be asked to carry out communicative tasks that you might need to complete in your daily life. For example, a speaking prompt might ask you to leave a voicemail to inform your school about your absence for the day and reasons for it. You are strongly recommended to check out the test taking tips (included below) to prepare for the test.

- While testing is in progress, the use of personal electronic devices (mobile phones, laptops, tablets, cameras, audio recorders/players, smartwatches, etc.) will be strictly prohibited. You will be asked to turn off all your devices completely and leave them out of sight while taking the test.
- You will be able to take a break between the test sections. If you need to pause your test for any reason, please inform your proctor as soon as possible.

### **Tips for preparing for the testing session:**

- If you are taking a AAPPL test, review the following webpages for helpful resources:
  - [Tips for test taking](#)
  - [Demo test](#)
  - [General topics](#)
- If you are taking an AP test, review the [AP World Language & Culture exam tips](#)
- If you are taking a AVANT STAMP 4S, STAMP WS, or STAMP for ASL test, review the test taker guides below:
  - [AVANT STAMP 4S test taker guide](#)
  - [AVANT STAMP WS test taker guide](#)
  - [AVANT STAMP for ASL test taker guide](#)
- If you are taking STAMP WS and MN Bilingual Seals Assessment through Extempore, check out the following resources:
  - [AVANT STAMP WS test taker guide](#)
  - Extempore practice tests are available. Please talk to **[name of responsible person]** to obtain applicable practice tests.

### **Other tips:**

- Make sure you have enough food and water before the test.
- Remember to get plenty of rest the night before so that you will be in your best shape for the test.
- Do your best and try not to worry if your answers are not perfect. Language learning is a journey. Show what you are able to do with your target language even with a lot of errors!

Please contact **[name of responsible person]** by emailing **[email address of responsible person]** or calling **[phone number of responsible person]** if you have any questions, concerns, or special requests.

Best of luck with your exam!

