

Athens High School - Seal of Biliteracy

An [Ohio Seal of Biliteracy](#) recognizes graduating seniors who can demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and at least one other language. **Athens High School** gives this award by following state-established guidelines.

A Seal of Biliteracy is literally a statement that is added to a student's transcript at the time of graduation that reads, "<Student Name> is awarded the Ohio Seal of Biliteracy for demonstrating high levels of proficiency in English and <world language>."

To be eligible for a Seal of Biliteracy assessment, a student **must be within 15 months of graduation**.

To earn a Seal of Biliteracy, a student must first demonstrate proficiency in English in 1 of 4 ways:

1. Earned a proficient level or higher on Ohio's required state tests for high school English language arts II; or
2. Earned a remediation-free score on the English and reading sections of the ACT or SAT; or
3. Earned a proficient level or higher on an Ohio Department of Education-approved alternative assessment (TerraNova or Iowa Test); or
4. Earned a score of proficient or higher on the 9-12 Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA).

A student must also demonstrate proficiency in another language by meeting 1 of 6 of the ODE-established criteria below.

1. Passed an Advanced Placement (AP) world language examination with a score of 4 or higher; or
2. Passed an International Baccalaureate (IB) world language examination with a score of 5 or higher on the Higher Level exam or a score of 6 or higher on the Standard Level exam; or
3. Attained a score of Intermediate High or higher in comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing the world language based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines found at actfl.org/, using assessments approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or
4. Qualified for proficiency-based credits through Ohio's credit flexibility program and attained a score of Intermediate High or higher in comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines using assessments approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or
5. Attained a score equivalent to Intermediate High or higher on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines in interpersonal signing, presentational signing and demonstrating understanding of American Sign Language on an American Sign Language assessment approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or
6. Attained a score equivalent to Intermediate High or higher on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines in interpretive reading and presentational writing on a classical language assessment approved by the Ohio Department of Education.

Athens High School uses the [AAPPL](#) and AP tests for French and Spanish. In the French and Spanish language tracts at AHS, traditionally AP tests are not administered until May of senior year. These test scores do not become available until post-graduation. In order for students to have the opportunity to earn the Seal of Biliteracy and be recognized prior to graduation, students would take the AAPPL test as early as March of their junior year. AAPPL is also available and may be used in Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Russian.

AAPPL

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Test Dates

Fall - November (Seniors only) (exact dates TBD)
Spring - April (Juniors and Seniors only) (exact dates TBD)

Those interested in taking or retaking one or more parts of the Seal of Biliteracy (AAPPL) assessments must complete this [application form](#). AAPPL assessments will be administered at no cost to the student. (Students are responsible for payment of AP tests.)