

Guidelines for BCS

- All Birmingham City Schools students in grades 8-12 are welcome to apply for the SoBL.
- ESL and World Language Teachers may work together with counselors to identify students who qualify to apply for this academic award.
- The ESL SoBL committee will provide guidance and a calendar of events and important deadlines.
- The ESL SoBL will be responsible to organize the Awards Ceremony for all the BCS students who achieve this academic distinction by their high school graduation date.



What is the AL SoBL?

The Alabama Seal of Biliteracy is awarded by the Alabama State Department of Education in recognition of graduating students who have demonstrated an intermediate level of proficiency in English and at least one other world language, including American Sign Language.

To honor the proficiency demonstrated by these learners, postsecondary institutions may award credit to students who received the Alabama Seal of Biliteracy.

For more information, contact:

NANCY BLANCO, ED.S.
**COORDINATOR OF ESL &
WORLD LANGUAGES**
NBLANCO@BHM.K12.AL.US
(205) 963-4970



MARIA LOPEZ
ESL SPECIALIST
MLOPEZ@BHM.K12.AL.US
(205) 687-0527



Alabama Seal of Biliteracy

Overview and Guidelines

<https://www.alabamaachieves.org/english-learners/>

Proficiency Criteria

To earn the Alabama Seal of Biliteracy, a student must:

1 Complete the high school graduation requirements.

Demonstrate proficiency in one of the English language proficiency criteria options on **Chart 1**.

2

3 Demonstrate proficiency in one or more World languages other than English through one of the World Language Proficiency Criteria options on **Chart 2**.

The AAPPL

The Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages is an assessment of standards-based language learning, delivered over the internet, under proctored conditions, and requires that each candidate have headphones with a microphone. Because the AAPPL is delivered online, schools can arrange for learners to take the assessment in a proctored setting at any time.

<https://www.languagetesting.com/aappl>

Chart 1: English Language Proficiency Criteria Options

Option 1	ACT English: A score of 18 or higher.
Option 2	ACT Reading: A score of 20 or higher.
Option 3	Advanced Placement Language Examination: A score of three (3) or higher.
Option 4	International Baccalaureate Examination: A score of five (5) or higher.
Option 5	WIDA ACCESS 2.0: For non-native English speakers, the student shall meet and maintain Alabama exit criteria in English proficiency. A composite score of level 4.8 or higher.
Option 6	American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages: For non-native English speakers, an intermediate Mid-3 or higher score in English.

Chart 2: World Language Proficiency Criteria Options

Option 1	The Advanced Placement Language Examination: A score of three (3) or higher.
Option 2	American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages: An Intermediate Mid-3 or higher score in all four components.
Option 3	International Baccalaureate Examination with a score of four (4) or higher.
Option 4	Common European Framework of Reference: A score of level B1 or higher.
Option 5	Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency: A score of intermediate-mid level or higher.
Option 6	American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language Oral Proficiency Interview Writing Proficiency Test: A score of intermediate-mid level.
Option 7	American Council of Teachers of Foreign Language Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment: A score of intermediate-mid level three (3) or higher.
Option 8	American Sign Language: Sign Language Proficiency Interview, American Sign Language Proficiency Interview, or Assessment of

