



Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Davenport Community School District is pleased to announce that we will be offering the Iowa Seal of Bilingualism beginning with the spring semester of 2019. The Iowa Seal of Bilingualism is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of our district and the many languages spoken, by both native and non-native speakers. Below you will find more information about this seal and how your student can earn this distinction.

What is the Iowa Seal of Bilingualism?

The Iowa Seal of Bilingualism is an award given by a district to recognize students who have attained proficiency in two or more languages, one of which is English, by high school graduation.

Why is the Iowa Seal of Bilingualism Important?

Being able to know and use more than one language is a critical skill for the 21st century. The Iowa Seal of Bilingualism:

- Prepares students with 21st century skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society.
- Provides employers, universities, and grant/scholarship providers with a method to recognize applicants for their dedication to attainment of bilingualism.
- Recognizes the value of language diversity and cultural identity.

How can my student earn the Iowa Seal of Bilingualism?

Students must show proficiency in English and one other language at any point in grades 9-12

- **English proficiency requirements** (one of the following):
 - ACT English score of 18 or higher
 - SAT English score of 470 or higher
 - English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA 21) proficient score
 - Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP) proficient score in English
- **Show proficiency in one additional language**
 - Score of 3 or higher on the target language AP exam
 - Demonstrate proficiency in your designated language through one of the approved exams: AAPPL or OPI/WPT combo test (depending on language)
 - This exam will vary based on the language for which you are seeking proficiency. The test will be administered twice yearly in our district, November and March, and will assess reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

How will Iowa Seal of Bilingualism be awarded?

- This seal will be included on transcripts and diplomas of successful candidates.
- Students who earn the seal will be recognized at Awards and graduation.
- Students can put this distinction on resumes and future applications.

For more information, please visit the [State of Iowa website](#) or the District's Website, under the Academics TAB.