

2018 Seal of Biliteracy Report

On May 12, 2016 SB1239 was signed into law establishing the State Seal of Biliteracy Program. This program recognizes high school students who achieve proficiency in English and at least one additional language. The seal is placed on the student's diploma and noted on the transcript. Specific requirements are listed in ARS 15-258.

During the 2017-2018 school year, 20 LEAs participated in the Seal of Biliteracy Program. This number included 16 school districts and 4 charter schools. Five counties were represented- Apache, Coconino, Maricopa, Navajo, and Pima. The Navajo Nation Seal of Bilingual Proficiency Assessment was added to the list of assessments approved by the State Board of Education.

A total of 873 seals were awarded to graduating seniors. Of those 873 students, 179 students were designated as an English Language Learner at some point during their K-12 academic journey.

Students earned seals in 9 different languages. These languages were:

- Spanish- 785 seals awarded
- French- 62 seals awarded
- Navajo- 11 seals awarded
- Mandarin- 7 seals awarded
- German- 3 seals awarded
- Japanese- 2 seals awarded
- Hebrew- 1 seal awarded
- Arabic- 1 seal awarded
- Russian- 1 seal awarded

These numbers are an increase in both total number of seals earned and number of languages from the class of 2017. In 2017, 316 students earned the seal in 4 languages.