

Course Credit for the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy at Public Colleges and Universities in Illinois

Per Illinois state [statute](#), “Each public community college and public university in this State shall establish criteria to translate a State Seal of Biliteracy into course credit based on foreign language course equivalencies identified by the community college's or university's faculty and staff and, upon request from an enrolled student, **the community college or university shall award foreign language course credit to a student who has received a State Seal of Biliteracy.** Students enrolled in a public community college or public university who have received a State Seal of Biliteracy must request course credit for their seal within 3 academic years after graduating from high school.”

While the legislation requires that schools translate the Seal into course credit, many schools also use the Seal as a placement tool or to satisfy certain graduation requirements. It is the student’s responsibility to seek these credits and approvals in a timely manner at the institution of higher education.

The following information was gathered from individual college and university websites and is subject to change as unique entities update their websites. If you encounter a broken link or incorrect information, please send an email to biliteracy@isbe.net.

Chicago State University	<i>A student who has received the State Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded a total of 6 credits (lower division). This is the equivalent of first semester (3 credits) and second semester (3 credits) of language study at CSU. When the seal is granted in a language not offered at Chicago State University, 6 credit hours of lower division foreign language elective will be awarded.</i>	Published yearly in the CSU course catalog PDF
Eastern Illinois University	<i>Seal of Biliteracy: 12 credits (lower division) Commendation toward Biliteracy: 8 credits (lower division) EIU recognizes the State Seal of Biliteracy and the Commendation toward Biliteracy regardless of the state in which it was earned.</i>	Registrar: Biliteracy
Governors State University	<i>Students who present appropriate documentation of the Seal to their advisor within three years of high school graduation will be awarded six hours of foreign language credit.</i>	Admission Information
Illinois State University	<i>Illinois State University accepts the State Seal of Biliteracy from any state as equivalent to two semesters (8 credits) of language study (LAN 111-112) in languages offered at the University. If the seal is granted in a language not offered at Illinois State University, eight credit hours of lower division foreign language will be awarded.</i>	Office of the Registrar
	<i>If you are earning a B.S. in the College of Arts and Sciences, then your language requirement is to complete a world languages class at the level of 112 or higher, or completion of Level III of one high school world language or earning the Seal of Biliteracy.</i>	Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
Northeastern Illinois University	<i>Students who receive the State Seal of Biliteracy will receive a total of 6 credits (lower division) of language study at Northeastern.</i>	Transfer Center

<p>Northern Illinois University</p>	<p>Seal of Bilingual: 12 credits Commendation: 9 credits</p> <p>You must ask for the credits to be applied. To receive credit, send an official high school transcript with an annotation stating that you earned the seal or commendation directly to the Office of Admissions.</p>	<p>World Languages and Cultures</p>
<p>Southern Illinois University Carbondale</p>	<p>Students that have earned the State Seal of Bilingual while in high school will automatically receive foreign language credit at SIUC once a high school transcript is received awarding the State Seal of Bilingual. SIUC does not require foreign language for admission purposes, thus only those programs that require foreign language will show complete upon receipt of the State Seal of Bilingual.</p>	<p>Alternative Credit Opportunities</p>
<p>Southern Illinois University Edwardsville</p>	<p>*UPDATED*</p> <p>Southern Illinois University Edwardsville accepts the State Seal of Bilingual as equivalent to 101-102 in language courses offered at the university, namely eight (8) credit hours. When the seal is granted in a language not offered at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, eight (8) credit hours in a lower division foreign language course (FL 101-102) will be awarded.</p>	<p>Facilitated Language and Tutoring Center</p> <p>Academic Policies</p>
<p>University of Illinois Chicago</p>	<p>Students who present appropriate documentation of the Seal to their advisor within three years of high school graduation will be awarded UIC proficiency credit. For languages not listed, 4 semester hours of foreign language elective credit will be awarded. The State Seal of Bilingual must be earned in Illinois to be recognized by UIC.</p> <p>College of LAS language requirement met. College of Business Admin language requirement met.</p>	<p>Hispanic and Italian Studies</p> <p>Course Catalog: Academic Standing</p>
<p>University of Illinois Springfield</p>	<p>UIS translates the State Seal of Bilingual into foreign language course credit based on course equivalencies identified by UIS faculty and staff. It is the student's responsibility to request course credit based upon an earned State Seal of Bilingual.</p>	<p>Course Catalog</p>
<p>University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign</p>	<p>Students with a verified Seal of Bilingual will earn 8 hours of credit equivalent to the first two levels of foreign language regardless of the language other than English. The credit will appear as 8.00 Earned hours from Seal of Bilingual on the official University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign transcript in the Transfer Credit Accepted by the Institution section.</p>	<p>Office of the Registrar</p>
	<p>Earned course credit (SPAN 102/122), enroll in SPAN 130.</p>	<p>Department of Spanish & Portuguese</p>
<p>Western Illinois University</p>	<p>Students earning the Illinois State Seal of Bilingual will receive credit for courses numbered 121, 122, 223, and 224 in the specified language (approximately 14 credits).</p>	<p>Foreign Languages and Literatures</p>

Community Colleges

Blackhawk Community College	<i>Two years of credit</i>	Academic Resources: High School Articulation
Carl Sandburg College	<i>The Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy posted to a student's high school transcript will be evaluated as twelve (12) credit hours of foreign language coursework at Carl Sandburg College (levels 151, 152, and 251). Credit granted will be based on foreign language course equivalencies, or elective credit.</i>	Registrar's Annual Credit Granting Guide
City Colleges of Chicago	<i>Students who have earned the SSB from an Illinois high school will receive the equivalent of 4 semester hours of college credit. For languages offered at City Colleges of Chicago, students will receive credit for the first introductory course in the same language in which the student has received the State Seal of Biliteracy.</i>	Credit for the State Seal of Biliteracy
College of DuPage	<i>Students who earn the <u>State Seal</u> will be awarded eight credits of the foreign language and students who receive a State <u>Commendation</u> receive four credits of the foreign language. If the language is not offered at College of DuPage, general degree credits in Humanities is given.</i>	Tests Accepted
College of Lake County	8 credit hours – SPA 121, 122 or FRN 121, 122 <i>For information regarding languages other than Spanish or French, please speak with the Communication Arts division</i>	Credentials Chart
Danville Area Community College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Admissions & Records
Elgin Community College	<i>4-8 credit hours, depending on language</i>	Biliteracy Course Listings
Harper College	<i>Students that have earned the SSB while in high school can receive up to 8 hours of Harper College's "Elementary I" and "Elementary II" foreign language course credit if the applicable language course is offered at the College.</i>	Testing Center: State Seal of Biliteracy
Heartland Community College	<i><u>Commendation</u> toward Biliteracy is equivalent to the first two semesters of college level foreign language for a total of eight credits. <u>Seal of Biliteracy</u> is equivalent to the third and fourth semesters of college level foreign language for a total of eight credits.</i>	Additional Exams
Highland Community College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Enrollment & Records
Illinois Central College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Student Records
Illinois Eastern Community Colleges	8 credit hours	Credit Equivalency

Illinois Valley Community College	Contact the registrar.	Student Services
John A. Logan College	Contact the registrar.	Admissions & Records
John Wood Community College	Contact the registrar.	Registration
Kankakee Community College	Contact an advisor.	Student Resources
Kaskaskia College	Credit will be awarded for: SPAN 101 – Spanish I SPAN 102 – Spanish II	Admissions
Kishwaukee College	Contact the registrar.	Annual Course Catalog
Lake Land College	ENG110/111: Manual Communication-Deaf and Advanced Signing FLG130/131: Elementary French I and II FLG140/141: Elementary Spanish I and II FLG150/151: Beginning German I and II	Academic Standards
Lewis & Clark Community College	Credit earned in the Elementary foreign language courses, I and II, in Spanish, French and German	Annual Course Catalog
Lincoln Land Community College	Contact the registrar.	Registration
McHenry County College	The Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy posted to a student's high school transcript will be evaluated as eight (8) credits of foreign language coursework at MCC (levels 151 and 152).	Academic Policies and Standards
Moraine Valley Community College	Students who have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy will earn up to 8 hours of credits of foreign language course. Credit granted will be based on foreign language course equivalencies, or elective credits. Moraine Valley will recognize the State Seal of Biliteracy regardless of the state in which it was earned.	Policies and Forms
Morton College	The institution also recognizes the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy and the Illinois State Biliteracy Commendation for high school students who have demonstrated proficiency in a foreign language. Students who have earned this recognition can earn college credit by submitting their official high school transcripts reflecting the Seal.	Prior Learning Policy
Oakton Community College	Students who have demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English, as designated on their high school transcript, will be awarded eight modern language credits . Students who enroll in courses at Oakton within three years of earning the Seal of Biliteracy will automatically have their transcript reviewed by the Registrar's Office for the Seal and credits will be awarded automatically.	Credit for Prior Learning

Parkland College	<i>Upon receipt of the document, college credit for the first two semesters of the language will be awarded.</i>	Credit for Prior Learning
Prairie State College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Registration
Rend Lake College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Transfer of Credit Procedure
Richland Community College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Records & Transcripts
Rock Valley College	<i>Contact the registrar.</i>	Credit for Prior Learning
Sauk Valley Community College	<i>Sauk Valley Community College accepts the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to two (2) years of foreign language coursework taken during high school if a student's high school transcript indicates the student has received the State Seal of Biliteracy.</i>	State Seal of Biliteracy
Shawnee Community College	<i>Contact the registrar or an advisor.</i>	Registration & Advisement
South Suburban College	<i>Contact the Counseling Center SPN 101 and 102.</i>	Alternative Credit
Southeastern Illinois College	<i>Contact the Associate Dean of Enrolment Services.</i>	Board Policies
Southwestern Illinois College	<i>Southwestern Illinois College will accept the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to two years of foreign language coursework taken during high school if a student's high school transcript indicates that he or she will be receiving or has received the State Seal of Biliteracy.</i>	Course Catalog
Spoon River College	<i>Upon request, students who achieve the State Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish will be awarded credit for SPA101 (4 hrs.) and SPA102 (4 hrs.). Students who achieve the State Seal of Biliteracy in any other language will be awarded 8 hrs. of elective credit.</i>	Prior Learning
Triton College	<i>Specific to language and proficiency exam.</i>	Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy Equivalency
Waubonsee Community College	<i>The Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy posted to a student's high school transcript will be evaluated for up to twelve (12) credit hours of foreign language coursework at Waubonsee Community College if the applicable language course is offered.</i>	State Seal of Biliteracy

The preceding information was gathered from individual college and university websites and is subject to change as unique entities update their websites. If you encounter a broken link or incorrect information, please send an email to biliteracy@isbe.net.