

# The Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy: SY 26 Approved Assessments

## COMPLETE-DOMAIN

Complete-domain assessments are nationally recognized and readily available assessments that fully satisfy the criteria for the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy. Districts must use complete-domain assessments for all languages unless the needed language does not have an approved complete-domain assessment. Generally, complete-domain assessments evaluate a student's communicative competence in each domain that characterizes that language and provide corresponding discrete scores in those domains. If the assessment provides discrete scores for different modalities of the language, each score must meet the minimum criteria. Composite scores do not qualify.

## PARTIAL-DOMAIN

Partial-domain assessments also are nationally recognized assessments that measure proficiency but may combine or infer scores in certain domains based on student performance in other domains. This may be an assessment that offers one score for speaking/listening and one score for reading/writing. Partial-domain assessments may be used to demonstrate the levels of proficiency necessary to earn the Seal of Biliteracy until a complete-domain assessment is approved. Districts may not use partial-domain assessments for languages that have complete-domain assessments available. If the assessment provides discrete scores for different modalities of the language, each score must meet the minimum criteria. Composite scores do not qualify.

## ENGLISH

Per [Illinois School Code 105 ILCS 5/2-3.159](#) and [23 Illinois Administrative Code 680](#), students must demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English as well as a language other than English (LOTE) to qualify for the Seal. These are the approved methods for demonstrating English proficiency.

## COMPLETE DOMAIN

### Language Other than English (LOTE)

Districts and schools **must** use a complete-domain assessments for all languages for which one is available.

The following assessments have met the approval criteria of [Ill. Adm. Rule 680](#) and are not endorsed, sponsored, or funded by ISBE. The responsibility lies with the participating public or nonpublic district/school to purchase and administer the assessment in accordance with rule and law.

Approved Complete-Domain Assessment	Languages Available	Minimum Score to Qualify for Seal	Minimum Score to Qualify for Commendation
<a href="#">ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) Measure – FORM B</a>	Arabic, ASL, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish.	1-5 Intermediate High (ACTFL)	1-1 Intermediate Low (ACTFL)
<a href="#">ACTFL Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment (ALIRA)</a>	Latin	1-5 Intermediate High (ACTFL)	1-1 Intermediate Low (ACTFL)
<a href="#">Advanced Placement (AP<sup>®</sup>) * Language and Culture exam</a> <a href="#">Exam ordering</a>	Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish	4	3
<a href="#">Advanced Placement (AP<sup>®</sup>) * Latin</a> <a href="#">Exam ordering</a>	Latin	4	3

<a href="#">Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP™) 4S</a> Ordering: Submit a <a href="#">contact request form</a> or send an email to <a href="mailto:info@avantassessment.com">info@avantassessment.com</a>	Arabic (modern standard), French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin (Simplified and Traditional), Polish, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Spanish	6	4
<a href="#">Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP™) Monolingual</a> Ordering: Submit a <a href="#">contact request form</a> or send an email to <a href="mailto:info@avantassessment.com">info@avantassessment.com</a>	Arabic (Modern Standard), Spanish	6	4
<a href="#">Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP™) for ASL</a> Ordering: Submit a <a href="#">contact request form</a> or send an email to <a href="mailto:info@avantassessment.com">info@avantassessment.com</a>	American Sign Language	6	4
<a href="#">Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP™) for Latin</a> Ordering: Submit a <a href="#">contact request form</a> or send an email to <a href="mailto:info@avantassessment.com">info@avantassessment.com</a>	Latin	6	4
<a href="#">American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI)</a> Ordering: <a href="http://ASLPI(beta.c.org)">ASLPI(beta.c.org)</a>	American Sign Language	3+	2+
<a href="#">Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI:ASL)</a> Ordering: <a href="#">ASL Training &amp; Evaluation (ASLTE)</a>	American Sign Language	Intermediate Plus	Survival Plus
International Baccalaureate (Language B)	<i>Per designated <u>IB Language B Diploma Programme</u></i>	3 (higher level) 4 (standard level)	2
<a href="#">National Examinations in World Languages (NEWL)™</a> <a href="#">Registration and exam information</a>	Arabic, Korean, Portuguese, Russian	Intermediate High	Intermediate Low
<a href="#">LAS Links Español</a> <a href="#">Exam ordering</a>	Spanish	527	451
<a href="#">Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL)</a> Score report should include ACTFL level for ease of interpretation. <a href="#">Exam Registration</a>	Mandarin	Intermediate High	Intermediate Low

\* Approved assessments for the Illinois State Seal of Bilingualism must meet the criteria identified in [Ill. Admin. Code 680.20](#). APL Language & Culture exams maintain approval as they predate the approval guidance adopted in January 2021 and July 2025.

# International Assessments

## Language Other than English (LOTE)

The following assessments have been approved by ISBE and may be used to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy. These exams are typically only used by heritage language and culture programs. Due to the challenges in accessing these exams outside of a heritage language school, the Partial Domain assessments for these languages are also allowable for public or non-public schools.

The following assessments have met the approval criteria of [Ill. Adm. Rule 680](#) and are not endorsed, sponsored, or funded by ISBE. The responsibility lies with the participating public or nonpublic district/school to purchase and administer the assessment in accordance with rule and law.

Approved International Assessments	Languages Available	Minimum Score to Qualify for Seal	Minimum Score to Qualify for Commendation
<a href="#">Standard Test of Bulgarian as a Foreign Language</a> <a href="#">Exam registration</a>	Bulgarian	B1 (CEFR)	A2 (CEFR)
Lithuanian Language Proficiency Assessment, as provided by the <a href="#">Ministry of Education of Lithuania</a>	Lithuanian	B1	A2
<a href="#">CNaVT – Certificaat Nederlands als Vreemde Taal (B2 – STRT)</a> <a href="#">Exam ordering</a>	Dutch	B1	A2
<a href="#">DEL F (Diplôme d'études en langue française)</a> <a href="#">Chicago-based site</a> <a href="#">Registering for the exam</a>	French	B1	A2
<a href="#">Goethe Zertificat</a> <a href="#">Exam information</a>	German	B1	A2
<a href="#">Deutsches Sprachdiplom der Kultusministerkonferenz (DSD I, II)</a>	German	B1	A2
<a href="#">Certificate of Attainment in Greek "Ellinomatheia"</a>	Greek	B1	A2
<a href="#">Egzaminy certyfikatowe z języka polskiego jako obcego</a> <a href="#">Registering for the exam</a>	Polish	B1	A2
<a href="#">SIELE (Servicio Internacional de Evaluación de la Lengua Española)</a> <a href="#">Exam ordering</a>	Spanish	B1	A2
<a href="#">DELE (Diplomas de Español como Lengua Extranjera)</a> <a href="#">Exam registration</a>	Spanish	B1	A2

# PARTIAL DOMAIN

## Language Other than English (LOTE)

Partial-domain assessments **may** be used to demonstrate the levels of proficiency necessary to earn the Seal of Biliteracy until a complete-domain assessment is approved. Districts **may not** use partial-domain assessments for languages that have complete-domain assessments available.

The following assessments have met the approval criteria of [Ill. Adm. Rule 680](#) and are not endorsed, sponsored, or funded by ISBE. The responsibility lies with the participating public or nonpublic district/school to purchase and administer the assessment in accordance with rule and law.

Approved Partial-Domain Assessment	Languages Available	Minimum Score to Qualify for Seal	Minimum Score to Qualify for Commendation
<a href="#">The ACTFL OPI &amp; WPT for the Seal of Biliteracy®</a>  email <a href="mailto:aapplhelp@languagetesting.com">aapplhelp@languagetesting.com</a>	Albanian, Amharic, Bangla, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Cantonese, Croatian, Dari, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Malayalam, Pashto, Polish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese, and Yoruba	Intermediate High	Intermediate Low
<a href="#">ALTA for the Seal of Biliteracy</a>  Speaking/Listening + Reading/Writing	Afrikaans, Albanian, Amharic, Arabic dialects: (Egypt, Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Morocco, Sudan), Armenian Eastern, Azerbaijani (Azeri), Baluchi (Western), Bambara, Bangla (Bengali), Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cambodian, Cantonese, Cape Verdean Barlavento, Cape Verdean Sotavento, Chuukese, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dari, Dutch, Ewe, Fante (Akan), Farsi, Finnish, French Canadian, Fulani, Ga, Georgian, Greek, Gujarati, Haitian Creole, Hausa, Hindi, Hmong, Hungarian, Igbo, Ilocano, Indonesian, Jamaican Patois, Kannada, Kazakh, Kinyarwanda, Kurdish Kurmanji, Kurdish Sorani, Lao, Latvian, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Malay, Malayalam, Mongolian, Nepali, Norwegian, Oromo, Pashto, Punjabi (Eastern), Punjabi (Western), Romanian, Samoan, Serbian, Serbo-Croatian, Sinhala, Slovak, Somali, Sorani, Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog, Taiwanese, Tajik, Tamil (India), Telugu, Thai, Tibetan, Tigrinya, Turkish, Twi (Akan), Ukrainian, Urdu, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Wolof, Yoruba	6 (ALTA scale)  1+ Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR scale)	5 (ALTA scale)  1 Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR scale)
<a href="#">Avant STAMP WS</a>	Amharic, Armenian, Bengali, Cabo Verdean, Chaldean (Speaking only), Chin (Hakha), Chuukese, Czech, Filipino (Tagalog), Greek, Haitian Creole, Hawaiian (‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i), Hmong, Ilocano, Kannada, Khmer, Marathi, Marshallese, Nepali, Pashto, Persian-Farsi, Punjabi, Samoan, Somali Maay Maay, Somali Maxaa, Swahili, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Tigrinya, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, Vietnamese, Yoruba, Yup’ik, Zomi	6	4

<p><a href="#">Avant SuperLanguage</a></p>	<p>Abkhazian*, Afaan Oromo, Albanian, Arabic – Algerian, Arabic – Arab Gulf, Arabic – Egyptian, Arabic – Iraqi, Arabic – Jordanian, Arabic – Lebanese, Arabic – Libyan, Arabic – Moroccan, Arabic – Palestinian, Arabic – Sudanese, Arabic – Syrian, Arabic – Tunisian, Arabic – Yemeni, Bambara/Bamanakan, Bikol, Bosnian, Burmese, Cantonese, Catalan, Cebuano, Chäm, CHamoru (Chamorro), Danish, Dari, Dinka, Dyula, Estonian, Ewe, Fiji Hindi, Fijian, Fulani, Georgian, Gujarati, Hausa, Hawai'i Creole, Herero (Otjiherero), Hungarian, Icelandic, Igbo, Ilonggo (Hiligaynon), Indonesian, Jamaican Patwah, Jingpho (Kachin)*, K'iche', Kankanaey, Kapampangan (Pampango), Karen*, Kikuyu, Kinyarwanda (Kinyamulenge), Kirundi, Kosraean, Krio, Kunama, Lao, Latvian, Lingala, Lisan ud-Dawat, Lithuanian, Luganda (Ganda), Malay, Malayalam, Mandinka (Mandingo), Mixtec, Mongolian, Mortlockese, Norwegian – Bokmal, Norwegian – Nynorsk, Nuer, Nyanja (Chichewa), Odia (Oriya), Palauan (Palall), Pangasinan, Pohnpeian, Q'anjob'al, Romanian, Saho, Sanskrit, Shona, Sinhala (Sinhalese), Soninke, Swazi (siSwati), Swedish, Sylheti, Tatar, Tibetan (Bod-skad), Tok Pisin, Tongan, Twi, Uzbek, Visayan (Bisaya), Waray-Waray, Wolof, Yapese, Zigula</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>4</p>
--	--	----------	----------

## APPROVED METHODS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

The following assessments have met the approval criteria of Ill. Adm. Rule 680 and are not endorsed, sponsored, or funded by ISBE. The responsibility lies with the participating public or nonpublic district/school to purchase and administer the assessment in accordance with rule and law.

Approved Method for Demonstrating English Proficiency	Minimum Score to Qualify for Seal	Minimum Score to Qualify for Commendation
<a href="#">ACCESS for ELLs® **</a>	4.8 overall	3.5 literacy
<a href="#">ACT + Writing</a>	College-ready <a href="#">benchmark</a> for: ELA subject area (18) <b>Note: The <a href="#">ACT + Writing</a> must be taken</b>	
<a href="#">ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL) FORM B</a>	1-5	1-1
<a href="#">AP English Language and Composition Exam</a>	4	3
International Baccalaureate Language A Language AND Literature	3 (higher & standard)	
ESSA College and Career Indicator (Transitional or dual-credit coursework in ELA articulated in partnership with a community college)	Final GPA: 3.0	Final GPA: 2.5
<a href="#">SAT</a>	480 Evidence Based Reading and Writing	
<a href="#">Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP™) 4S</a>	6	4

*\*\* Only an approved method for students who are designated as English Learner (EL) at the time of the assessment. Qualifying scores must be from ACCESS administrations in grades 9-12.*