

# Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy

## Award benefits

### College

- Per [105 ILCS 5/2-3.159](#), all public colleges and universities in Illinois must award foreign language credit for the State Seal of Biliteracy
  - Note: awarded credits vary per school. Some colleges and universities will recognize the Seal as meeting all foreign language requirements, others recognize it as meeting partial foreign language credit. Some private colleges/universities in Illinois recognize the Seal, although it is not required of them in Illinois's rules. Additionally, some out-of-state colleges/universities recognize the Seal as foreign language credit as well
- Students may be able to earn scholarship money for being biliterate
- Earning the Seal could more quickly put students on track towards a major or minor in the foreign language in college
- Students may have opportunities in college to join certain clubs or activities to meet and engage with other people who speak the same language

### Career

- The Seal is a formal or official way of acknowledging biliteracy on a resume or LinkedIn
- Many employers seek out or strongly prefer candidates who are biliterate. Earning the Seal would give students a "leg up" among other applicants in the job market, as well as opening a larger pool of potential jobs or fields to enter
- Employers may give biliterate employees additional tasks or responsibilities because of their language skills, giving those employees more opportunities for various experiences and gained knowledge in their field
- Employers may pay more or offer bonuses to applicants who are biliterate