

Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages (AAPPL)

Denver Public Schools (DPS) believes language is an asset and values linguistic and cultural diversity. We want students to graduate literate in more than one language. Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, DPS offered the Seal of Biliteracy program to officially recognize students who are proficient in two or more languages. The AAPPL exam is one option a student can use to prove proficiency in a language.



WHAT IS THIS ASSESSMENT?

The AAPPL exam is a 2-hour computer based exam that assesses a student's proficiency level in reading, writing, speaking and listening. The AAPPL measure addresses the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages and uses today's communication media in which test takers perform tasks such as participating in a virtual video chat, creating wikis, e-mailing, and using apps to demonstrate language ability. The exam is in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Thai. The AAPPL exam is a free exam for students, the Seal of Biliteracy program pays for the exams.



WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

Students are not required to take the AAPPL exam, however if a student would like another option to prove proficiency in a language that is supported by the exam to help them earn the Seal of Biliteracy they are invited to take the exam in February and March each school year. For specific dates and classroom location to take the exam please contact your school counselor or teacher directly.



WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

If a student takes the AAPPL exam, the results will be considered as part of the decision on their eligibility to earn the Seal of Biliteracy each Spring of a students' junior or senior year of high school. The individual scores for each section are not reported back to students unless upon request.



HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

Earning the Seal of Biliteracy requires 3 parts:

1. Meeting graduation requirements
2. Proving proficiency in English
3. Proving proficiency in one or more World Languages

If a student completes the AAPPL exam, this score will be used to determine if the student met the World Language proficiency benchmark.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher or counselor for ways you can help your child continue their language development and complete the AAPPL exam if necessary.

More Information Visit: Seal of Biliteracy

- DPS Seal of Biliteracy: <http://sealofbiliteracy.dpsk12.org/>
 - Includes information on what the Seal of Biliteracy is, the benefits of being biliterate, what the requirements and due dates are for the year.

- AAPPL Exam: <http://aappl.actfl.org/>ncludes information on what the AAPPL exam is and practice exams for students.

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call Family Constituency Services at (720) 423-3054.