



California State Seal of Biliteracy for Tamil

Jan 25, 2022
Rev 1.0

**Are you proficient in Tamil AND
currently in 12th grade ?**



**You can now get official recognition,
the State Seal of Biliteracy,
which has many benefits !**

Overview

- State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes high school graduates proficient in more than one language
- Tamil has been added to this program for Sacramento County Schools, starting in 2022
- Enables students to get official recognition for the language they have learnt outside school
- Helps with college, career. Colleges may provide credit.

Process

1. Determine if you are [eligible](#) (1 minute)
 2. Send mail to your [School District Coordinator](#) asking for application form (5 minutes)
 - a. cc your School Counselor and gtorres@scoe.net
 - b. Send asap, preferably before end of Jan
 3. Fill application form and send to your [School District Coordinator](#) (10 minutes)
 - a. cc your School Counselor and gtorres@scoe.net
 - b. Due date: Check with your School District Coordinator. Apply asap, preferably in Jan or early Feb.
 4. Prepare for exam
 - a. Should only need few hours if you are already proficient, just to revise and practice
 5. Take exam. Expected to be in February to April. (1 hour)
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- School district coordinator needs to send list of students to test to SCOE by Feb 24
 - School district coordinator works with their school sites to establish the exam date
 - Check with your School District Coordinator and your School Counselor

Eligibility Criteria (All criteria must be met)

1. Currently in 12th grade
2. Completed all English-language arts (ELA) requirements for graduation with an overall GPA of 2.0 or above in those classes.
3. Passed the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) in ELA (administered in grade eleven)
4. For Tamil, pass the exam given by the school district

Details at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/documents/criteriaflyer.docx>

Sample e-mail to request application form

To: <Your [School District Coordinator](#)>
Cc: <Your School Counselor>, gtorres@scoe.net
Subject: State Seal of Biliteracy for Tamil

Hello Mr/Ms <Your School District Coordinator>,

I came to know that the Tamil language exam is now being offered by SCOE for the State Seal of Biliteracy. I am proficient in reading, writing and speaking Tamil, so I would like to apply for the Tamil exam and get the State Seal of Biliteracy. Can you please send me the application form?

I have met the other criteria (my GPA is above 2.0 and I have passed CAASPP).

Thanks,
<Student name>

Participating School District Coordinators

Center USD - Jerald Ferguson
(916) 338-6420; jferguson@centerusd.org

Elk Grove USD - Garret Lebsock
(916) 793-2953; glebsock@egusd.net

Folsom Cordova USD - Elena Cabrera
(916) 294-9000; ecabrera@fcusd.org

Futures High School - Tatyana Palischuk
(916) 286-1904; tatyana.palischuk@gcccharters.org

Galt Joint Union High SD - Kellie Beck
(209) 745-3081; kbeck@ghsd.k12.ca.us

Natomas Charter School - Laura Bariel
(916) 416-2208; lbariel@natomascharter.org

Natomas Pacific Pathway Prep Charter - Teresa Villanueva;
(916) 576-5740; tvillanueva@natomasunified.org

Natomas USD - Mary Lynch
(916) 567-5400; mlynch@natomasunified.org

River Delta USD - Carrie Norris
(916) 776-1844; cnorris@rdusd.org

Sacramento City USD - Azarel Iniguez
(916) 643-9446; Azarel-Iniguez@scusd.edu

San Juan USD - Cristina Burkhart
(916) 979-8578; cristina.burkhart@sanjuan.edu

Twin Rivers USD - Tamara Keane
(916) 566-1600; tamara.keane@twinriversusd.org

Visions In Education - Patrisia Quijada
(916) 883-1675; pqujada@viedu.org

https://www.scoe.net/media/xzukpaj2/sacramento_county_public_school_districts.pdf

Sample Application Form

Student Intent to Participate in the Language Exam

This Intent to Participate form is for a student who has met the English proficiency criteria for the State Seal of Biliteracy and may be proficient in a language other than English, but who is **NOT** taking an AP, IB, or SAT II world language exam or has **NOT** taken a 4-year course of study in the language of interest.

By completing this form, the student may be selected to participate in the language exam process conducted by the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) and collaborating districts/charters to be eligible for the State Seal of Biliteracy award.

The language assessment will include **reading and writing** sections, and an **oral** interview conducted in the world language of interest. **See student self-assessment below; submit one form per language. (must be completed by the student)**

Languages offered: Arabic, Armenian, Cantonese*, Dari, Farsi, French, German, Hindi, Hmong, Korean, Lao, Mandarin*, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Tamil, Turkish, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

Directions: Complete and submit this Intent to Participate form to your district/charter Seal of Biliteracy contact.

Student Information:

First Name:			
District/Charter:	State:	County:	City:
**Language Other than English:			
**Language Other than English:			

Student Information for English Eligibility requirements:

Criteria 1: English	
Successful completion of all English-language arts (ELA) course requirements for graduation with an overall grade-point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above in those classes.	(GPA) []
If your primary language is NOT English, verify that you also meet the following eligibility requirement:	
[] Scored at Level 4 on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) or met Redclassification status. Check (X). []	

Student Self-Assessment:

**Criteria 3: Language Other than English		
CIRCLE "Yes" or "No" to respond to the statements below regarding your proficiency in the language other than English.		
When listening, I can understand the identified language.	Yes	No
I can verbally respond to questions in complete sentences.	Yes	No
I can read with comprehension in the identified language.	Yes	No
I can write fluently in the identified language.	Yes	No

Completion of this form does not guarantee the student will receive the State Seal of Biliteracy Award.

- For District/Charter Use Only -

I verify that the information on this form is accurate, and that the student named above has met the English-language arts criteria to receive the State Seal of Biliteracy.

Date: [] District/Charter Seal of Biliteracy Contact: _____

Signature: _____

Prepare for Exam

- Exam will test for proficiency in basic reading, writing, speaking, listening, understanding
- There will not be any deep testing in grammar
- If student has graduated from Sacramento Tamil Academy or has achieved any other equivalent level, they should be ready for the exam
- Sacramento Tamil Academy is considering providing refresher classes and mock tests to help students

More info

- Official site with all details:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/sealofbilitery.asp>
- [SSB Info ppt](#)
- [SSB FAQs](#)
- For additional questions, contact
 - Raj: rajarajan.thangavelu@sactamilacademy.org
 - Kavitha: Kavitha.manoharan@sactamilacademy.org
 - Muthu: muthukumar.swaminathan@sactamilacademy.org