



MEDFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

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Dear Medfield Families,

The Medfield Public Schools values the linguistic diversity of our school community and appreciates the dedication and commitment involved in advanced language study. To recognize the assets of multilingualism and to promote sustained English language, native language, heritage language, and global language learning, Medfield High School participates in the **MA State Seal of Biliteracy**- an award given to seniors who have attained a high level of proficiency in English and a world language.

According to the [Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education](#):

“Significantly, the State Seal of Biliteracy provides a means to recognize high school graduates who attain high functional and academic levels of proficiency in English and a foreign language, meaning that those students can function in those languages in authentic, real-life situations. The Seal of Biliteracy was signed into law on November 22, 2017, by Governor Baker as part of “An Act Relative to Language Opportunity for Our Kids,” [Chapter 138 of the Acts of 2017](#), commonly referred to as the LOOK Act. The regulations describe that the purposes of the State Seal of Biliteracy are to:

- Encourage students to study and master languages;
- Certify attainment of biliteracy skills;
- Recognize the value of language diversity;
- Provide employers with a method of identifying people with language and biliteracy skills;
- Provide universities with a method to recognize and give credit to applicants for the attainment of high-level skills in languages;
- Prepare students with skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society; and
- Strengthen intergroup communication and honor the multiple cultures and languages in a community.[1]”

The chart below summarizes the awards and the criteria for the state award.

MA State Seal of Biliteracy With Distinction	Score of Meeting Expectations (501) on the grade 10 ELA MCAS Score of Advanced Low in the lowest domain/mode of a proficiency test
MA State Seal of Biliteracy	Score of Partially Meeting Expectations(472) on Grade 10 ELA MCAS Score of Intermediate High in the lowest domain/mode of a proficiency test

Medfield High School students in the graduating class of 2022 currently enrolled in an Advanced World Language class will automatically take a proficiency test as part of their course on February 11th, 2022. Medfield High School students in the graduating class of 2022 NOT enrolled in a world language class who believe their language skills (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational in both the written and spoken language) in a second language meet the criteria of Intermediate High should contact their guidance counselor to discuss next steps.

Sincerely,

Ellen H. Toubman

Ellen H. Toubman (World Languages and Cultures Department Chair grades 2-12)

[1] 603 CMR 31.01(3). (*Guidance and Laws - English Language Learners*. (2019). *Doe.mass.edu*. Retrieved 15 January 2019, from <http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/guidance/default.html>)