



## Ohio Revised Code

### Section 3313.6111 State seal of biliteracy.

Effective: October 3, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 33

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(A) The department of education and workforce shall establish the state seal of biliteracy, which may be attached or affixed to the high school transcript of a student enrolled in a public or chartered nonpublic school. The state seal of biliteracy shall demonstrate the attainment of a high level of proficiency by a graduate of a public or chartered nonpublic high school in one or more languages in addition to English, sufficient for meaningful use in college and a career. The purpose of the state seal of biliteracy shall be to:

- (1) Encourage students to study languages;
- (2) Certify the attainment of biliteracy;
- (3) Provide employers with a method of identifying individuals with language and biliteracy skills;
- (4) Provide institutions of higher education with an additional method to recognize applicants for admission;
- (5) Prepare students with twenty-first century skills;
- (6) Recognize the value of foreign language and native language instruction in public schools; and
- (7) Strengthen inter-group relationships, affirm the value of diversity, and honor the multiple cultures and languages of a community.

(B)(1) A school district, community school established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, STEM school established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, college-preparatory boarding school established under Chapter 3328. of the Revised Code, or chartered nonpublic school may attach or affix the state seal of biliteracy to the transcript of a student enrolled in the school who meets the requirements prescribed under division (C)(1) of this section. A district or school shall not



be required to attach or affix the state seal of biliteracy on the transcript of a student enrolled in the school.

(2) Each school district, community school, STEM school, college-preparatory boarding school, and chartered nonpublic school shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who have completed the requirements for earning a state seal of biliteracy as prescribed under division (C)(1) of this section, and if the district or school has a policy of attaching or affixing the state seal of biliteracy to student transcripts, the district or school shall make the appropriate designation on the transcript of a student who completes the requirements.

(C) The department shall do the following:

(1) Establish the requirements and criteria for earning a state seal of biliteracy, including assessments of foreign language and English proficiency.

(2) Prepare and deliver to participating school districts, community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and chartered nonpublic schools an appropriate mechanism for assigning a state seal of biliteracy on a student's transcript indicating that the student has been assigned the seal;

(3) Provide any other information it considers necessary for school districts, community schools, STEM schools, college-preparatory boarding schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to participate in the assigning of a state seal of biliteracy;

(4) Adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement the provisions of this section.

(D) A student shall not be charged a fee to be assigned a state seal of biliteracy on their transcript. A student may be required to pay a fee to demonstrate proficiency in a language, including the cost of a standardized test to determine proficiency in a language.

(E) As used in this section, "foreign language" refers to any language other than English, including modern languages, Latin, American sign language, native American languages, and native



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languages.