

New Rochelle High School Seal of Bilingual & Biliteracy

What is the New York State Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy is a formal recognition of a student's proficiency and achievement in English and one or more languages other than English (LOTE).

It takes the form of a seal that appears on the student's diploma as well as a notation on the student's record.

What is the goal of the Seal of Biliteracy?

- highlight the achievement of multilingual students
- prepare students with twenty-first century skills
- recognize the value of world and home language instruction in our schools
- identify high school graduates with language and biliteracy skills for employers or universities

Who can participate?

For the 2018-2019 school year, the program will be available to New Rochelle High School seniors only. The NYSSB is intended for all students who demonstrate a high intermediate proficiency in English and any other language, including American Sign Language. (A language does not have to be part of the New Rochelle High School World Language program to be eligible.)

How does an interested student earn the seal?

1. Counselors select individuals based on the criteria established by NYSED and their names are submitted to the New Rochelle High School Seal of Biliteracy Committee.
2. Applicants who qualify will meet with the New Rochelle High School Seal of Biliteracy Committee to determine their eligibility and their pathway for attaining the seal.

What are the pathways to achieving the seal?

There are different ways a student can attain the seal. New York State determines the outlines of the pathways. The New Rochelle High School Seal of Biliteracy Committee (SBC) has the task of implementing and approving a student's achievement of the seal of biliteracy.

Who decides if a student earns the Seal of Biliteracy?

The New Rochelle High School Seal of Biliteracy Committee (SBC) is comprised of World Language teachers, English Language Arts teachers, English as a New Language teachers, guidance counselors and administrators. After a student has completed the requirements, a minimum of two committee members will evaluate their work, following the criteria set by NYSED. If a student has chosen to do a portfolio as part of their pathway, the student will be interviewed in the chosen language by a panel of judges selected by the SBC to measure interpersonal and presentation skills.

