



What is Credit-by-Exam?

Arlington Public Schools (APS) allows students with the ability to comprehend and communicate in languages other than English to earn high school credits through selected world language tests. Credit-by-Exam

measures students' foreign language proficiency to award up to four high school foreign language credits. We use nationally-normed tests such as STAMP, AAPPL, OPI, and the WPT for most languages.

How does participating in the Credit-by-Exam help students?

If students wish to graduate with an Advanced Studies Diploma (ASD), they need to earn world language credits. These are earned by taking three years or credits of one language (3 x 1) or two years or credits each of two different languages (2 x 2).

How many world language credits can be earned through the exam?

Depending on the exam, students can earn up to two credits or up to four credits based on their level of proficiency as demonstrated by the exam.

If a student was placed into a level III or IV class because of their language skills, they can take the test to earn retroactive credit for prior levels. If a student is enrolled in level III and receives 4 credits on the exam, only one additional credit can be added to their transcript. **Multiple credits for the same world language course cannot be given.**

How will the score on this assessment help students obtain a Seal of Biliteracy?

Since 2015-16, the Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy certifies attainment of a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English by graduating high school students. The Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded to students who pass all required End-of-Course Assessments in English at the proficient or higher level (11th grade SOL) and who score an intermediate-mid level or higher in another language on a nationally-normed exam. The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded and placed on a student's high school diploma.



Who is eligible and how do students know if they are proficient enough for this test?

Students in grades 7-12 are eligible, if they are *at least* at the Novice Mid level, and are able to:

- Ask and answer simple questions.
- Make simple statements in a conversation in response to another person
- Communicate basic information.
- Express likes and dislikes.
- Fill out a basic form.
- Read and write a list of daily activities.

Please see the Self Assessment Grid available at: <http://www.apsva.us/worldlanguages>

If you are a student receiving ESOL/HILT A and B, make sure you note on the registration form you are receiving those services as we will ensure you have a different test for you.

Who should NOT take this exam?

- Students currently enrolled in a level IV or SFS III class, as they will be given this exam in their class in the spring.
- Students who want to improve their grade in a previous world language course.

How much will it cost?

There is no cost to Arlington Public School students for the first time. Re-tests are at the expense of the student and the cost per test varies.

If a student is a not native speaker of the language but has a high level of proficiency, can s/he participate?

Yes, provided the student is able to read, write, speak and listen in the language of the exam tested at the Novice Mid level or higher. Please see the Self Assessment Grid. Students must be able to complete all work independently.

When does the testing happen?

Tests will be offered on Tuesday, November 5th, 2019 (Election Day, no school for students) Wakefield High School. **There is only one main testing date. Seniors in need for credits to graduate should consult the World Languages Office for a spring opportunity.**

How do students sign up?

Students can register online at: <https://www.apsva.us/world-languages/credit-by-exam/> Afterwards, students will be contacted to confirm the testing date, time and location.

Registration will be: September 3rd—October 4th.

What languages are able to be tested?

Most languages, including American Sign Language, are available. Please note: unfortunately, we are **not** able to offer the exam for these languages: Fuldude, Kanna-da, Malagasy, Mam, and Xhosa. We apologize for the inconvenience.

How is the exam scored?

The exam is scored by either a computer or an outside assessor who is proficient in the language of the exam. Results are final and cannot be appealed. Credits will be awarded based on the following:

Will students receive a grade for passing the exam?

Proficiency Level	Credit (s) Awarded	Next Placement	Next SFS Placement
Novice High	1.0	Level II	SFS I
Intermediate Low	2.0	Level III	SFS II
Intermediate Mid	3.0	Level IV	SFS III
Intermediate High	4.0	Level V (A.P not recommended)	Level V (A.P not recommended)

If successful, students will receive a “pass” grade for the equivalent course(s) which will appear as a “P” on transcripts to signify the levels have been successfully completed. Students will not receive a letter grade that will impact the grade point average (GPA).

How will results be shared?

Parents will be notified of results by letter by the end of January.

Where can more information be found?

Call the World Languages Office at 703.228.6097

Credit-by-Exam & Seal of Biliteracy

2019-20

World Languages Office

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