

### **If a student is a not native speaker of the language but has a high level of proficiency, can they participate?**

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

### **What languages are able to be tested?**

All available languages are on the registration form. If you do not see the language, it is not available at this time.

### **When does the testing happen?**

Tests will be offered on Election day in November. This is a non-school day for students. Some languages require a different test and students will be contacted directly with time and date. See FAQ for more information: [apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages](https://apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages)

### **How do students sign up?**

Registration information can be found online at: [apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages](https://apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages)  
You will receive confirmation once you have submitted the registration form. Afterwards, **students will be contacted to confirm the testing date, time, and location.**

**Registration** close six weeks prior the test date.

### **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:

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 (AP not recommended)	Level V or Dual Enrollment

### **Will students receive a grade for passing the exam?**

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). Students who have preciously earned a letter grade, cannot replace the letter grade with the "pass" grade earned on the exam unless the course was taken in middle school.

### **How will results be shared?**

Parents will be notified of results by letter by the beginning of February.

# Credit-by-Exam & Seal of Biliteracy

## World Languages Office



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[apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages](https://apsva.us/curriculum/world-languages)



Arlington  
Public  
Schools



### What is Credit-by-Exam?

Arlington Public Schools (APS) allows students with the ability to understand and communicate in languages other than English to earn high school credits through state approved world language tests. Credit-by-Exam measures students' world language proficiency to award up to four high school world language credits.

### 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 obtained by earning three credits of one language (3 x 1) or two credits each of two different languages (2 x 2).

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

Per the Virginia Board of Education guidelines on Credits for demonstrated Proficiency that was revised in November 2020, students can earn up to four credits based on their level of proficiency as demonstrated by the exam. If a student was placed into a higher level 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 four credits on the exam, only one additional credit, credit for level IV 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 Virginia Seal of Biliteracy?

Since 2015-16, the Board of Education's Virginia 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 at an intermediate-mid level or higher in speaking and writing in another language on a state-approved exam. The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded and placed on a student's high school diploma and on their high school transcript.



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

Students in grades 9 -12 are eligible, if they are *at least* at the Novice High 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.

**If you are a student receiving English Learner services** and do not read and understand English well, make sure you note on the registration form you are receiving those services as we will ensure you have a different test if one is available.

### 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. This is not allowable.

### 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.

**Students who based on the language are scheduled to take and Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and do not show up will be responsible for the no-show fee which is \$60 for the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI).**

### Where can more information be found?

Contact the World Languages Office at 703.228.6097 or speak with a school counselor.