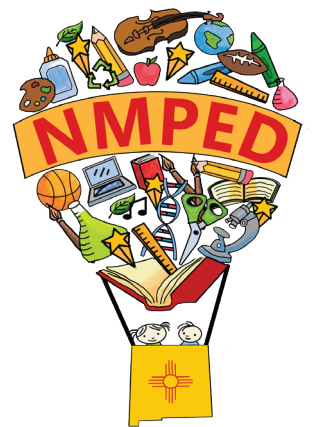


The State Seal of Bilingualism- Biliteracy

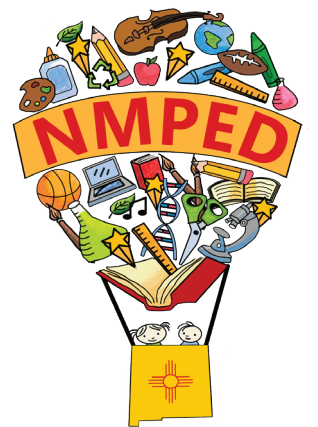


Kadriye El-Atwani, PhD
Multicultural Education Specialist,
Language & Culture Division
(505) 412-0248
Kadriye.el-atwani@state.nm.us



The capstone: The State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy

6.32.2 NMAC establishes the criteria for students to earn a State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy (SSBB) on a New Mexico diploma of excellence. The SSBB certifies that the recipient is proficient in the meaningful use of a language other than English in college or a career, or to meet a local community need for such a language.

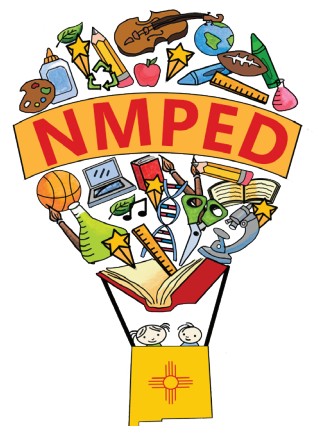


State Seal of Bilingualism- Biliteracy Requirements

To earn the SSBB on the Diploma of Excellence, students must meet the graduation requirements as specified in subsection J of 6.29.1.9 NMAC, and demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English, through one of the following methods:

- (1) certification by an individual tribe;
- (2) units of credit and an assessment;
- (3) units of credit and an alternative process portfolio; or
- (4) an assessment and an alternative process portfolio.

6.32.3.8 NMAC



SSBB timeline

September 15, 2015

The rule was published for the implementation of the State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy on the Diploma of Excellence.

In **SY 2016/17**, 490 high school students in 18 public school districts and two charter schools received the SSBB.

In **SY 2018/19**, 878 high school students in 22 public school districts and two charter schools received the SSBB.



3,310 high school students have received the SSBB since SY 2015/16.

September–December 2014

The task force had several meetings and submitted a final proposal to NMPED.

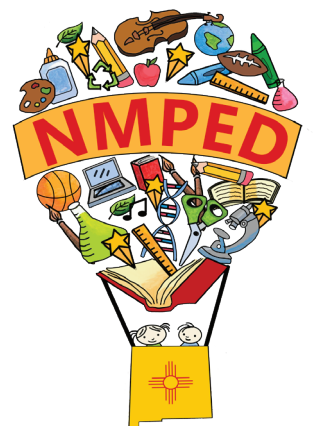
In **SY 2015/16**, 156 high school students in 11 public school districts and one charter school received the SSBB.

In **SY 2017/18**, 681 high school students in 19 public school districts and two charter schools received the SSBB.

In **SY 2019/20**, 1,105 high school students in 25 public school districts and four charter schools received the SSBB.

Languages

The SSBB has been awarded in: *American Sign Language, Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Keres, Korean, Latin, Navajo, Portuguese, Spanish, Somali, Tagalog, Tewa, Tiwa, Turkish, Vietnamese, and Zuni* since SY 2015/16.



SSBB resources

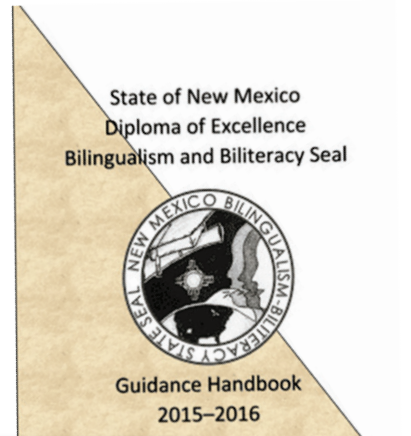
The SSBB **Guidance Handbook** is the main resource for SSBB implementation and is updated regularly.

[SSBB-Guidance-Handbook-2020-2021.pdf \(state.nm.us\)](https://state.nm.us/ssbb-guidance-handbook-2020-2021.pdf)

The SSBB **one-pager** summarizes the importance and implementation of the seal, as well as current data.

[SSBB-one-pager-update-9.4.2020.pdf \(state.nm.us\)](https://state.nm.us/ssbb-one-pager-update-9.4.2020.pdf)

The SSBB **handout** summarizes the seal's requirements and benefits. It is an instrumental resource to inform *middle and high school students* and to bolster SSBB rollout campaigns.

The infographic is titled 'THE STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY: A Capstone of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Education'. It features the New Mexico Public Education Department logo at the bottom left. The text explains that in the 21st century, the world economy is increasingly global and multicultural, which requires the workforce of the future to have linguistic and cultural competence. It states that the SSBB state resolution was published in September 2015, setting the adoption criteria for school districts and state charter schools. It also mentions that across NM, around 3,305 high school graduates received the State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy since 2015 in a variety of languages. The infographic includes a small circular seal of the State of Bilingualism-Biliteracy. The bottom right section of the infographic is a yellow box with the title 'State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy' and a small NMPED logo. It contains the following sections: 'WHAT IS THE STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY (SSBB)?', 'HOW DO I QUALIFY?', 'WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?', and 'WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?'. The 'HOW DO I QUALIFY?' section lists four options: (1) certification by an individual Tribe, (2) units of credit and an assessment, (3) units of credit and an alternative process portfolio, and (4) an assessment and an alternative process portfolio. The 'WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?' section lists several benefits, including representing one's identity, language, and heritage; increasing the chance of getting hired for a job as bilingualism is the top advantage for job seekers; earning between 5-20% more money per hour; and preparing for the 21st century's labor market and global society. The 'WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?' section provides the website webnew.ned.state.nm.us/bureau/languageandculture/seal-of-bilingualism-biliteracy/ and a QR code.

State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy

WHAT IS THE STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY (SSBB)?

The State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy (SSBB) is an award given by a school district or charter school in recognition of students who, by high school graduation, demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English. The SSBB emblem is placed on the graduating senior's diploma of excellence (including a notation on the transcript). It also encourages the pursuing of bilingualism-biliteracy, honoring of skills attained from school, family or community, and can be evidence of skills that are attractive to future employers and college admissions offices.

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

You can earn the SSBB on your diploma of excellence by demonstrating proficiency in a language other than English, through one of the following options:

- (1) certification by an individual Tribe
- (2) units of credit and an assessment
- (3) units of credit and an alternative process portfolio
- (4) an assessment and an alternative process portfolio

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

The SSBB can help you:

- Represent your identity, language, and heritage: "I feel like from ~ New Mexico high school student
- Increase your chances of getting hired for a job as bilingualism is the top advantage for job seekers (CNN Money)
- Earn between 5-20% more money per hour than those who speak only one language (Schwartz Insurance Group)
- Prepare for 21st century's labor market and global society
- Strengthen your future: "Learning/becoming proficient in more than one language can deeply enrich one's education, career experiences, and opportunities." (Thomasina Ortiz-Gallegos, Ed.D., Santa Fe Community College)

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

Reach out to your school counselor. You can also learn more by visiting the link or by scanning the QR code.

webnew.ned.state.nm.us/bureau/languageandculture/seal-of-bilingualism-biliteracy/

SSBB resources: LCD website

STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY (SSBB)

Home / Offices and Programs / Language and Culture Division / State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy (SSBB)

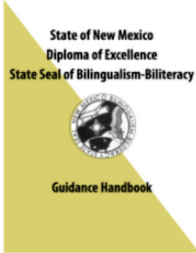
LAW: NEW MEXICO STATE STATUTE & NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE CODE (RULE)

22-1-9.1 NMSA (Statute)

6.32.3 NMAC (Rule)

RESOURCES

SSBB Guidance Handbook



The SSBB One Pager: A Capstone of Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Education



SSBB Handout



- ▣ TRIBAL LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATION
- ▣ UNITS OF CREDIT AND ASSESSMENT
- ▣ UNITS OF CREDIT AND ALTERNATIVE PROCESS PORTFOLIO



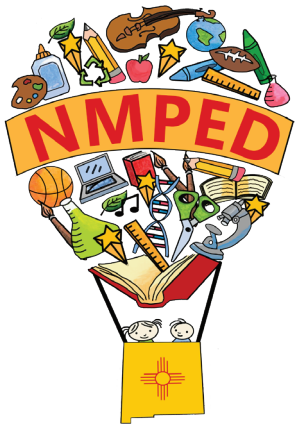
Language and Culture Division

- Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs (BMEPs)
- Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction
- English Learners

Language and Culture Division Staff

State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy (SSBB)

- Title III Supplemental Funding
- World Language Instruction



SSBB options

OPTION 1: Tribal Language Proficiency Certification

Tribes determines language proficiency criteria, process, and procedure.



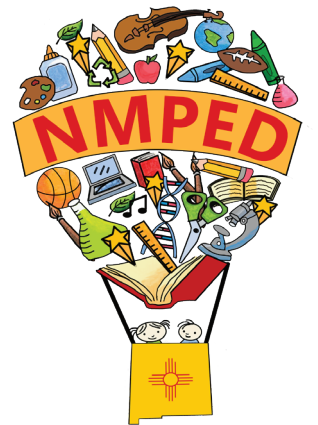
Student meets graduation requirements and the requirements set by the Tribe.



District/school receives proficiency certification from the Tribe.



Student receives Diploma of Excellence with the SSBB.



SSBB options

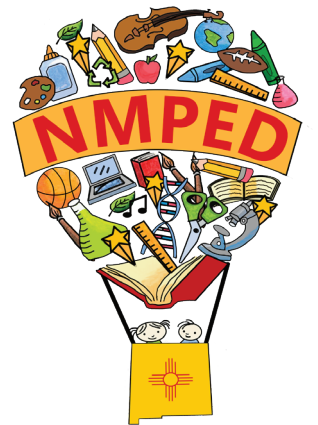
OPTION 2: Units of Credit & Assessment

Student takes and passes (C or higher) 4 units of credit in a language other than English.

Student takes and passes the approved assessment in a language other than English.

Student meets New Mexico graduation requirements.

Student receives Diploma of Excellence with the SSBB.



SSBB options

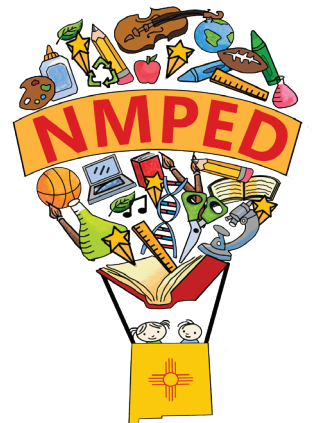
OPTION 3: Units of Credit & Alternative Process Portfolio

Student takes and passes (C or higher) 4 units of credit in a language other than English.

Student successfully delivers a presentation, participates in an interview panel, and produces a work sample—all in a language other than English.

Student meets New Mexico graduation requirements.

Student receives Diploma of Excellence with the SSBB.



SSBB options

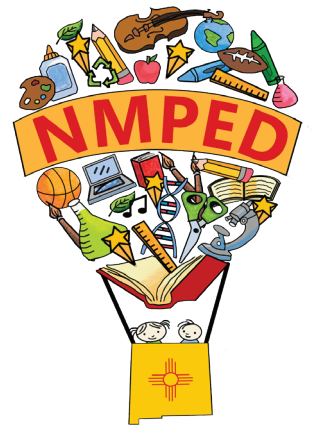
OPTION 4: Assessment & Alternative Process Portfolio

Student takes and passes the approved assessment in a language other than English.

Student successfully delivers a presentation, participates in an interview panel, and produces a work sample—all in a language other than English.

Student meets New Mexico graduation requirements.

Student receives Diploma of Excellence with the SSBB.



Examples of common misconceptions about the SSBB

- The SSBB implementation is only for the state-funded Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs (BMEPs). *Not true.* The SSBB can be adopted and implemented regardless of BMEPs.
- High school students can demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English with any kind of language assessment to receive the SSBB on the Diploma of Excellence. *Not true.* The assessment must be recognized as valid by the New Mexico Public Education Department.
- Locally authorized charter schools request the SSBB image from their districts. *Not true.* Locally authorized charter schools must request the SSBB image from the LCD.