

Iowa Seal of Biliteracy

Des Moines Telugu Badi Coaching Program



What is Seal of Biliteracy

A seal of biliteracy is an award given by a district to recognize students who have attained proficiency in two or more languages, one of which is English, by high school graduation.¹

Why is the Seal of Biliteracy important

According to the Iowa Department of Education the Seal of Biliteracy is important for the following reasons. The Seal of Biliteracy

- Values education as an asset
- Recognizes the value of language diversity and cultural identity
- Prepares students with 21st-century skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society; and
- Provides employers, universities, and grant or scholarship providers with a method to recognize applicants for their dedication to attaining biliteracy.

What are the components of the Seal of Biliteracy

There are four domains that a student is tested in

- Speaking
- Listening
- Writing
- Reading

Any student displaying proficiency in each of the above domains will be awarded the Seal of Biliteracy. The guidelines for being assessed as proficient in each of the areas are listed below.

Speaking

- Can handle simple straightforward tasks
- Uses expected phrases necessary for language survival
- Responds to request with little prompting
- Can ask questions when necessary to obtain simple information
- Express meaning by using known language
- Responses consist of sentences and strings of sentences
- Speech may have pauses, reformulations, and self-corrections
- Generally understood by speakers

Listening

- Can understand simple, sentence-length speech in a variety of contexts
- Comprehension is mostly correct

Writing

- Can write short and simple communication
- Can request for information
- Can write loosely connected sentences about personal preferences, daily routines, common events, and other personal topics
- Can write using the correct tense
- Writing style resembles oral discourse
- Control of basic sentence structure and verb form is present in the writing

- The writing is organized
- Can be easily understood by readers used to the language

Reading

- Can understand short, non-complex texts that convey basic information
- Can understand information about personal and social topics

For a sample of the test conducted to award the Seal of Biliteracy, visit the link below. There are links to various language tests that can help you with understanding the format of the test and a general idea of how the test is structured.

[Try Our Language Proficiency Sample Tests | Avant Assessment](#)

We encourage you to try out the tests before reaching out to Des Moines Telugu Badi for help.

What is Des Moines Telugu Badi

Des Moines Telugu Badi has been helping kids in the Des Moines area learn Telugu for over 10 years. With a strong set of committed volunteers and a structured program, our students have been able to learn Telugu and practice it effectively. We focus on three primary aspects

- Reading
- Writing
- Speaking

With our structured program, most students who complete our 5-tiered course will be proficient enough to gain the Seal of Biliteracy on their own without other help. If you need any other help our program outlined below can help you.

How can Des Moines Telugu Badi help you

Structure

Our short 6 week (??) program, two classes a week, can help you get confident with the four aspects of being awarded the Seal of Biliteracy.

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Seal of Biliteracy • Listening exercises • Practice comprehension after listening
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Listening comprehension • Reading of passages • Reading exercises
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Listening and Reading comprehension • Writing small essays in Telugu (minimum 500 words)
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Listening, Reading and Writing • Speaking practice feedback
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student can work with the teacher on specific skills that they feel they need help with • Practice Assessment and feedback
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice Assessment and feedback • Student exam readiness

Requirements

To enroll in this course,

- Students must be in 9th grade or higher
- Students must have prior knowledge of reading and writing the Telugu script.
 - Student must have completed Vistaaram grade successfully from Des Moines Telugu Badi
 - If the student was not a previous Des Moines Telugu Badi student, they must be ready to take a readiness assessment exam and score 80% or higher

- Students must also be able to communicate in Telugu with the instructors.
- Students must be ready to take the exam within 4 weeks of completing this course.
- If you do not have prior knowledge as described above, please enroll in the regular Telugu Badi session that starts in the fall of every year.