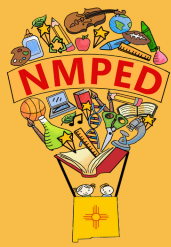


State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy



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 the SSBB empowers you and reminds you where you came 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." -Thomasinia 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.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/languageandculture/seal-of-bilingualism-biliteracy/

