

Colorado and the Seal of Biliteracy



Culturally &
Linguistically
Diverse Education
Academy

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Introductions

Fist to five=Rate your knowledge of the Seal of Biliteracy (fist=low to 5=high)

Turn and talk

- Name
- Position
- Share one thing you know about the Seal of Biliteracy and one thing you **want** to know.



Today's Goals:

Learn about:

- the Seal of Biliteracy & its benefits
- The districts that form Team Colorado and their implementation process
- The current status of the Seal at state and district levels



What is a “Seal of Biliteracy”?



The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a school, district, BOCES or state to recognize students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.

Why is the Seal of Biliteracy Important?

The Seal of Biliteracy...

- addresses language as a resource and language as a right
- values language as an asset
- prepares our students for college and career

Purpose & Benefits

- Recognize the value of language diversity & cultural identity
- Acknowledge and certify the attainment of biliteracy skills
- Prepare students with 21st century skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society
- Provide employers, universities, grants and scholarships with a method to recognize applicants for their dedication to attainment of high academic skills in 2 or more languages
- Strengthen intergroup relationships and honor the multiple cultures and languages in a community.

Current Status of the Seal at the National Level

States with the Approved State Seal	States Under Consideration	Early Stages or Exploration
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Washington● California● Nevada● Utah● New Mexico● Texas● Louisiana● Minnesota● Wisconsin● Illinois● Indiana● New York● New Jersey● Virginia● North Carolina● Florida● Hawaii● Washington D.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Arizona● Oregon● Iowa● Ohio● Maryland● Rhode Island● Massachusetts● Colorado	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alaska● Michigan● Arkansas● Tennessee● Connecticut● New Hampshire

Current status at the state level

- LCE Academy 2013 -Team Colorado began local efforts
- Aug. 2015 local school boards passed resolutions to support the Seal in their districts
- Jan. 2016 Colorado State Board failed to recognize the value in the Seal
- 2016 House Bill 16-1365 passed the House with bipartisan support and is waiting to be heard in the Senate Education Committee.

Who is “Team Colorado”?



Shared beliefs:

- Elevate the languages of our students.
- Acknowledge and reward Biliteracy as an asset.

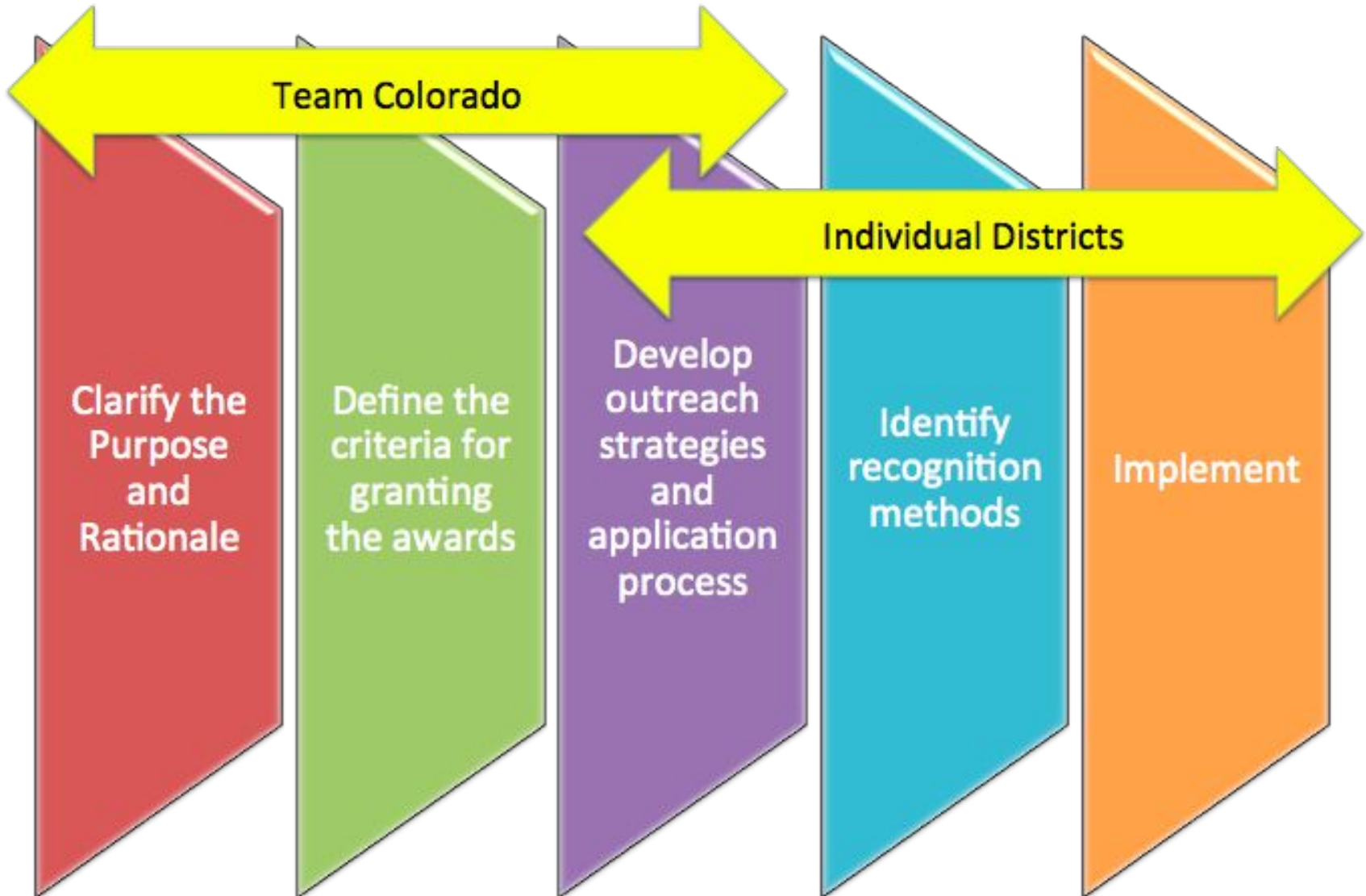
Shared goals:



- Identified core components that form the foundation for our individual district Seals
- Partner with institutions of higher education, parents, community, and businesses to encourage students to work towards attainment of the Seal.
- Guide other school districts across the state and nation to implement the Seal of Biliteracy on behalf of their students and communities.



Seal Development Process



Common Criteria for Granting the Award

All 3 districts set criteria at levels that lead students to be more likely to have success in college.

Students must be:

- Academically proficient in English as evidenced by graduation level or college level competencies (such as AP English, ACT minimums, DE English Comp credits, etc.)
- Academically proficient in a language other than English as evidenced by scoring at college credit-earning levels of Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing (such as AP World Language, IB etc.)

Additional Criteria

Eagle County & Adams 14 set goals around:

- Community Service
- Exit Interview

Pathway Awards



- Implemented in Eagle County this year
- For students “On the Pathway to Bilingualism and Biliteracy”
 - At 5th or 8th grade level in reading
 - Present 2 speeches they wrote (1 in each language)
- Bilingual Participation Award
- Biggest benefits of Pathway Awards are:
 - Collaborative effort to set expectations at each level
 - Parents and students WANT THE SEAL

Current status at the district level

DPS

- 80 met Criteria (all ELs)
- 300 being assessed and
- 600 applied (2% of total ELs in DPS Program)

Awards ceremony

Current status at the district level

ECS -about 45 on target to meet (10% of all seniors)

-40 native spanish (ELL or FELL), 4 native English

-44 Spanish, 1 German (already bilingual Span/Eng)

BPA- 70 applied, 5 different languages

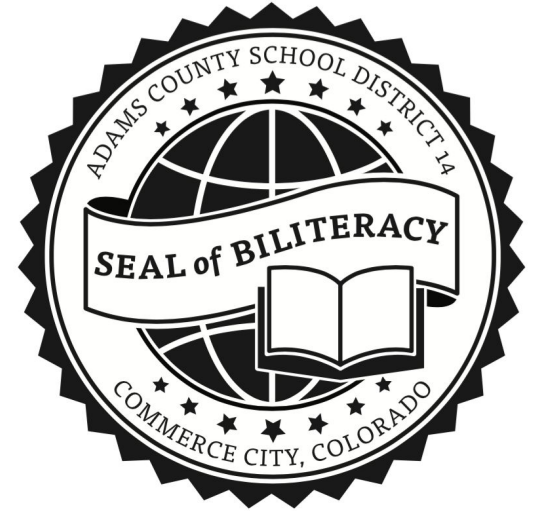
-students requesting Spanish classes at middle school

-Students requesting AP Literature to bridge the gap between 10th grade and the Seal

Current status at the district level

Adams 14

- 47 seniors applied this year
- 32 (n= 47) met the criteria or 68%
- SY 16-17 at least 100 students applying
- 75 students requested to have AP Spanish Language for next year



Q&A

- Questions about implementing the Seal of Biliteracy in your district?



Next Steps

- How could the Seal benefit your students and community?
- What are you already doing that would already fit into Seal Implementation?
- What information from the presentation will you bring back to district leaders to implement the Seal for your students?



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Additional Resources

Websites

- www.sealofbiliteracy.org
- [Adams 14 Seal Information](#)
- [CU BUENO Center](#)
- [DPS Seal Information](#)
- [Eagle Schools Seal Information](#)
- <http://www.actfl.org/news/press-releases/seal-biliteracy-guidelines-released>



Facebook Pages to “Like”

- Teaching for Biliteracy
- Seal of Biliteracy
- Spanglish Baby
- Multilingual Chicago



Wrap up- see the seal in action

- Grounding ourselves in the Seal of Biliteracy
 - Californians Together Video
 - [The Seal of Biliteracy - Celebrating Students of the 21st Century](#)

