



**Maryland Seal of Biliteracy**  
**Through AACPS World Language Office for**  
**Heritage Students**

**Dear Students and Families,**

AACPS would like to recognize the value and importance of speaking a world language other than English. To do so, we would like to offer you the opportunity to take the AVANT/STAMP proficiency test in your language to be eligible to earn the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy.

The Seal of Biliteracy has been adopted by all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Seal recognizes that you can speak and listen in your heritage language but also, read and write demonstrating that you are literate in your heritage language. By earning the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy you have evidence to show to future employers or higher education institutions that you are literate in English and your heritage language.

Why is this important? Knowing more than one language shows that you:

- can communicate with an entirely different population than if you only knew 1 language
- earn more money for knowing a second language
- are more flexible, open-minded, have a better respect and understanding for diverse cultures
- work more efficiently with peers due to better communication skills.

### **How can you take the AVANT/STAMP proficiency language test?**

- Please complete the Google Form by clicking on the QR Code. Once the Office of World Languages has your contact information, we will contact you directly with important information about the testing date, location, and transportation.
- In order to earn the Seal you must be able to read and write in your heritage language.

### **What can I expect as a student?**

- There is no cost to you to take the test.
- You will take the test at a high school that offers summer school.

- You can self-transport or ride one of the summer school buses to and from a specified bus stop.
- The test will take 3 hours.
- The test includes: 30 multiple choice reading questions, 30 multiple choice listening questions, 3 writing prompts, and 3 speaking prompts.
- The date, time, and location will be sent to you after you complete the Google Form and at the end of May.
- Summer 2024; date to be determined

**Suggested Qualifications:**

- You must be able to read and write in your heritage language.
- You must be a current 10th or 11th grade student.

Please fill out [this Google Form](#).

If you have any questions, please contact me at [jbtaylor@aacps.org](mailto:jbtaylor@aacps.org).



Thank you,

Julie Taylor

Coordinator World Language

AACPS