

PROCEDURE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

World Languages Credit for Competency/Proficiency

The board recognizes the value of preparing students to be global citizens with skills to communicate in English and other world languages. In our state's diverse communities, it is not unusual for students to have various opportunities to develop language skills outside of the classroom at home, through living abroad, or by attending community-based or online programs. To enable students to fully benefit from the advantages of multilingualism, the district will encourage students to learn to understand, speak, read and write at a high level of proficiency. Proficiency can also be demonstrated in languages that are only spoken or signed.

A. Definition

For the purpose of this procedure, a world language is defined according to the definition used by the Higher Education Coordinating Board as "(a)ny natural language that has been formally studied (..)including American Sign Language (AMESLAN, the language of the deaf community), and languages no longer spoken, such as Latin and ancient Greek. However, neither computer "languages" nor forms of deaf signing aside from AMESLAN are acceptable."

B. Demonstrating Competency/Proficiency in the World Language

Students seeking competency based credit must demonstrate proficiency across language. Assessments must be aligned to the American Council of Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines in order to assure consistency across languages. The following instruments may be used in Auburn:

- Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency (STAMP) in reading, writing, and speaking, and listening if available, for all languages for which it is available.
- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) assessments Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) or Oral Proficiency Interview Computer Based (OPIC) and Written Proficiency Test (WPT), for languages for which STAMP is not available or for which ACTFL assessments are deemed more appropriate.
- Appropriate assessments for American Sign Language such as the Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI).

C. Determining Competency and Credit Equivalencies

The district will award one or more credits based on the student demonstrating an overall proficiency level according to ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines as follows:

Novice Mid—1.0 credit

Novice High—2.0 credits

Intermediate Low—3.0 credits

Intermediate Mid—4.0 credits

Because students may demonstrate varied levels of proficiency across skills, credits will be awarded based on the lowest common level of proficiency demonstrated across the skill areas. (Example: If a student demonstrated Intermediate Mid level proficiency in Speaking, but Novice Mid in Reading and Writing, then credits would be awarded based on the lowest level of demonstrated proficiency, which would be one credit for Novice Mid.) No credit is given for separate skills.

D. Testing Opportunities

The district will manage the assessment process for World Languages only, providing at least one opportunity annually to take the STAMP assessment required to demonstrate proficiency. Assessments shall be proctored by district staff at sites approved by the district. Additional testing dates and languages may be available at universities in the region, in cooperation with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Washington Association for Language Teaching.

E. Paying for Assessments

The district or university will set a fee for the assessment to cover administrative costs, test fees, and or proctoring. Fees may vary depending on the assessment costs. (Fees may be adjusted for students on free/reduced lunch).

F. Reporting Results

The district will receive official test results for each student participating in the assessment process. The district will provide a letter to the student with a copy of the test results and an indication of how many world language credits, if any, may be awarded. Unless otherwise requested by the parent/guardian/adult student, world language credits earned will be recorded on the official high school transcript. Credits will be awarded with a grade of "Pass."