

Application for Seal of Excellence – Foreign Language Department

Student name _____ Date _____

CRITERIA FOR SEAL OF EXCELLENCE

Subject area goal: The curriculum followed will provide students opportunities to develop knowledge and skills in 5 key areas defined by the Standards: Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. While developing communication skills in the languages, they will: develop an understanding of the cultures, reinforce knowledge in other disciplines and understand how they connect to language study as well as explore the distinctive viewpoints only available within the languages/cultures, develop insight into the nature of language and culture, and participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world.

Students will keep a portfolio of academic and outside accomplishments to hand in when applying for a Seal of Excellence in Foreign Language.

Students must obtain at least 26 points to achieve a Seal of Excellence in Foreign Language:

POINTS

10	1	Complete at least 3 years (6 semesters) of study in high school of one of the foreign languages offered.
10	2	Achieve a GPA of 3.75 or higher for all of the courses taken in high school in the one foreign language computed on 6 semesters of study or 3.50 if the student has completed a fourth year computed on 8 semesters of study.
	3	Complete at least 3 of the following:
2	a)	Participate actively, and with a positive influence, for 1 year or more in one of the high school language or culture clubs. (The quality of this participation will be verified by the club sponsor directly to the Department Chair).
2	b)	Participate in a national testing program (AP, IB, Cambridge and/or any National Lang. Exam)
2	c)	Participate in some other language competition such as the Southern Az Language Fair (categories of Drama, Recitation, and/or Oral Proficiency competitions specifically) where the student must receive commendations of Outstanding or Excellent, or a trophy prize.
2	d)	Participate in a student exchange or foreign study program, either through hosting or as traveling participant (to be verified though a one-paged typed essay by the student that describes the experience and its value to the student).
2	e)	Present evidence of study in an additional language in high school for 1 or more years (2 or more semesters) with a GPA of 4.0 computed on the semesters in this additional language.
2	f)	Present evidence of fluency in a third language, either through study or by presenting formal test results.
2	g)	Present evidence of a 5th year of language study of the 1st foreign language with a GPA of 3.25 computed on 10 semesters of study.
2	h)	Present evidence of community involvement such as volunteering, tutoring, assisting in elementary schools, etc., where the language is used.
	TOTAL	

Courses Completed

Course - Semester - Year - Grade

GPA for all of the courses taken in high school in the one foreign language		
GPA		Language

Add up all the points that apply:

Participated in a language or culture club	Which	
2 POINTS – Your points:	When	
	How	
Verified by/Teacher Signature		
Participated in National Testing	Which	
2 POINTS – Your points	When	
	Results	
Verification provided		
Participated in language competition-Southern Az Language Fair		
2 POINTS – Your points	Which	
	Results	
Verification provided		
Participated in a student exchange or foreign study program	Which	
2 POINTS – Your points:	When	
Attach verification essay		
Study in an additional language in high school	Which	
2 POINTS – Your points:	When	
	Grades	
Verification provided		
Fluency in a third language, either through study or by presenting formal test results	Language	
2 POINTS – Your points	Verification provided	
Community involvement	What	
2 POINTS – Your points:	When	
Attach verification essay		

Fourth/Fifth year of language study of the first language	Language:	
Year:	Semester:	Grade:

Year:	Language:	
2 POINTS – Your points:	Semester:	Grade:
Verification provided		

Students Signature _____ Total Points _____

Verified by _____ Date _____
 Foreign Language Department Chair