Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy
Frequently Asked Questions

What are the eligibility requirements to apply?

- Students must have completed all English Language Arts (ELA) requirements for graduation with an overall GPA of 2.0 or above in those classes.
- Students must have passed the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) in ELA administered in grade eleven, at or above the "standard met" achievement level.
- ***If primary language is not English***, the student must also attain the level demonstrating English language proficiency on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC) in transitional kindergarten or kindergarten through grade twelve, inclusive.

What are the components of the *Language Portfolio*?
There are four components to the *Language Portfolio*.

- The *Application*
- The *School Verification*
- The *Parent Authorization*
- The *Autobiography* (Please note that if you are requesting the Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy in two target languages, you must prepare two *Autobiographies*, one for each target language.)

Is my *Language Portfolio* going to be graded?

- Your *Language Portfolio* will be checked for completeness before the *Autobiography* is scored. Read the instructions carefully and follow them exactly. Failure to do so will render your submission incomplete and therefore ineligible for consideration.

Is my *Autobiography* going to be graded?

- Yes. This polished piece will determine if you are invited to the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy Assessment Event*. Details and examples are powerful. Remember you have 200 words to answer each prompt!
- You must earn a minimum score of 3 on all sections of the *Autobiography Rubric* to continue the process.

Who can I talk to or e-mail if I have questions?

- First contact your designated site or district contact.
- The site contact will be able to assist you with questions about completion, revision, and submission of *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy* components.
- You may also contact Grecia Alaniz, Administrator's Secretary for the Instructional Services unit, at (951) 826-6304 or e-mail to rcoeseal@rcoe.us with any questions you may have.

What will happen on the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy Student Assessment Event* day?

- If invited to participate on the On-Demand Assessment event, you will start the day at your assigned time and participate in an orientation for students. Then you will,
  - Provide an on-demand writing sample in English and in the target language(s), and
  - Be interviewed in English and in the target language(s).

Can I reschedule or make up the assessment day?

- No. Students invited to participate are given a specific time when they must show up for the assessment. Failure to attend the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy Assessment Event* at the scheduled time will disqualify the student from consideration.

How do I know if assessors will be fair and accurate?

- All assessors submit an application with determinations of their proficiency in the language they will assess.
- All assessors are trained by the county office prior to the event. The county and district contacts take great care to ensure that all scoring is accurate and fair.
- All assessors work in pairs for interviews, and student writing samples are read and scored multiple times.

What can I expect during the interviews?
- You will be interviewed by two assessors in both English and the target language(s).
- The interview with the assessors will last approximately 5 minutes.
- The assessors will score your interview using the *Student Oral Language Observation Matrix* (*SOLOM*).
  - You can find a copy of the *SOLOM* on the "Seal Resources" page of the *Riverside County Office of Education's Seal of Multiliteracy* website.

What scores do I need to earn the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy*?
- You must score a minimum of 3 out of a possible 5 points, with no score of 2 or less in any category on your Language Portfolio to be invited to the *Student Assessment Event*.
- You must score a minimum 4 out of a possible 5 points, with no score of 3 or less in any category on your English interview.
- You must score a minimum 4 out of a possible 5 points, with no score of 3 or less in any category your target language(s) interview(s).
- You must score a minimum 3 out of a possible 5 points, with no score of 2 or less in any category on your On Demand Writing samples for English and the target language.

Can I appeal the decision if I do not receive the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy*?
- No. There are already backup systems in place to ensure any non-passing scores are accurate.
- *Language Portfolios* are all checked for completeness. If it is deemed incomplete, it is then checked by a second committee member.
- *Autobiographies* in the *Language Portfolios* are read at least twice. If they do not receive a passing score, they are then re-read by assessors who will either confirm or overturn the score.
- The on-demand writing samples are read twice. If they do not receive a passing score, they are then reread by assessors who will either confirm or overturn the score.
- Interviews will only be conducted once. Preparation is essential to ensure you make the most of your one opportunity.

What is the process for American Sign Language (ASL)?
- All students applying for the Seal of Multiliteracy in American Sign Language (ASL) will do the English On-Demand writing prompt.
- Deaf or Hard of Hearing (DHH) students applying for the Seal in ASL will be interviewed in ASL only. Those who are hearing and applying for the Seal in ASL will be interviewed both in ASL and separately in English.

What do I need to do to earn the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy*?
- Submit the *Application* form by the designated deadline.
- Submit a complete *Language Portfolio* by the designated deadline and receive a minimum score of 3 out of 5 possible points.
- If invited, attend the *Student Assessment Event*, and participate in the On-Demand writing sessions and then, receive a minimum score of 3 out of 5 possible points in all of the categories. Participate in the English interview, and target language interview(s) and then, receive a minimum score of 4 out of 5 possible points in all of the categories.

Is there an extension on the deadline?
- There's no extension on the deadline. To be considered for the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy*, you must have all of the required components completed and turned in on-time as per the instructions.

Can I receive the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy* for more than one target language?
- Yes! You will need to let us know when you submit your *Application* and *Parent Authorization* forms, then again when you submit your *Language Portfolio*. Additionally, you will need to submit more than one *Autobiography* as part of your *Language Portfolio* — one addressing each target language.

Where can I find more information on the *Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy*?
https://www.rcoe.us/departments/educational-services/instructional-services/multilingual-education/riverside-county-seal-of-multiliteracy