

Dear Colleagues,

January 12, 2016

It is with pleasure that IFLTA shares the good news that the Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency (earlier known as the Seal of Biliteracy) will be available to the Class of 2017 in participating schools! This Certificate is a new asset to those students who have shown aptitude and diligence in their pursuit of literacy both in English and another language. It is wonderful to have this additional tool to honor their achievements.

The rulemaking process now concluded, the World Language Education community in Indiana can now turn its attention to the district-by-district implementation of the Certificate. We at IFLTA urge all of our members to inform themselves about the rules and consider working with the relevant administrators and counselors in your schools to make it a reality as soon as this year's graduating class.

Please visit the Department of Education's website on the Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency at <http://www.doe.in.gov/ccr/certificate-multilingual-proficiency>. Here, you will find out the requirements and can consider getting the ball rolling at your school. You can also learn more by joining The Learning Connection—the DOE's communication portal at <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov>.

Additionally, I would like to thank the IFLTA Advocacy Committee for its work with the General Assembly on this issue over the last several years, including Israel Herrera, Pam Gemmer, Gary Spurgin, among others. Thanks also to Jill Woerner of the DOE who has worked so closely with us at IFLTA on this and other issues since assuming her position there. Thanks also to Abby Dias, our Social Media Editor, for helping to spread the word via our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

As the Certificate of Multilingual Education takes flight here in our State, please consider spreading the word about it with the attached document, which you can print and post if you see fit.

Cordially yours,

Steve Ohlhaut

2017 President, Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association