



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**TO:** Superintendents of Schools

**FROM:** Irene E. Parisi, Chief Academic Officer *IEP*

**DATE:** August 26, 2021

**SUBJECT:** World Languages Graduation Requirement, and Award of Credit for World Languages for Students Who Speak/Use Languages Other Than English

This memorandum serves as a reminder to Superintendents of Schools, district leaders, and local and regional boards of education of the flexibilities regarding the awarding of world language credit.

Pursuant to Section (Sec.) 10-221a(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S), commencing with classes graduating in 2023, and for each graduating class thereafter, any student must satisfactorily complete one credit in world languages in order to graduate from high school or be granted a diploma.

Determination of eligible credits is at the discretion of the local or regional boards of education. Per C.G.S. Sec. 10-221a(g), a board may grant a student credit towards meeting the high school world language requirement upon completion of a world language course in any language other than English, including American Sign Language (ASL):

- in high school or in Grades 6, 7, 8;
- through online coursework; or
- offered privately through a nonprofit provider and achieving a passing grade on a prescribed examination.

Local and regional boards of education may consider using the recommended assessments and proficiency scores from the [Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy Guidelines](#) as the prescribed examination and passing grade. Any process used for assigning credit must be equitable across all world languages.

To assist schools, districts, and local and regional boards of education in the implementation of the world language graduation requirement, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) will be offering an informational webinar on September 30, 2021 at 3:00pm to review the pathway to World language credit outlined in this memo. [Click to register for Flexible Pathways for Awarding World Language Credit Information Webinar.](#)

If you have any questions regarding the webinar and/or awarding of world language credit, contact Dr. Gladys Labas, Director of Equity and Language, at [Gladys.Labas@ct.gov](mailto:Gladys.Labas@ct.gov).

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cc: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Acting Commissioner of Education  
Desi D. Nesmith, Deputy Commissioner of Education for Academics and Innovation  
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Dr. Gladys Labas, Director of Equity and Languages