

## San Diego Unified School District

Office of Language Acquisition  
4100 Normal Street, Room 2009  
San Diego, CA 92103

December 2019

Dear Correia Parents and Guardians,

On Friday, January 11, 2019, students at Correia Middle School will have the opportunity to take the LOTE (Languages Other than English) Alternative Assessment in Spanish. Testing will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will be completed by 12:00 p.m. Below you will find additional information about this assessment opportunity.

All San Diego Unified School District students are required to demonstrate proficiency in English and a language other than English (also known as LOTE or world language) in order to satisfy our high school graduation requirements. In order to satisfy the LOTE requirement, students must demonstrate proficiency equivalent to two years of secondary instruction in a language other than English.

There are six ways in which students may satisfy the world language graduation requirement. Most students satisfy the requirement via Options 1 and 2:

1. Successful completion of 2 years of world language courses in an SDUSD school
2. Successful completion of 2 years of world language courses in an SDUSD-approved Independent World Language School

Students may also satisfy the world language requirement through the following alternative means:

3. Passing an AP, IB, or SAT Subject exam
4. Successful completion of 2 years of formal instruction in a language other than English at or beyond Grade 6 (verified by foreign transcripts)
5. Passing a district-designed LOTE Alternative Assessment (assessments are currently available in Arabic, Cambodian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, and Vietnamese).
6. Receiving a certificate of proficiency from a college or university

The most popular of the alternative means is Option 5, the LOTE Alternative Assessments. Passing that assessment certifies proficiency equivalent to two years of secondary instruction in world language, thereby satisfying the SDUSD graduation requirement and UC/CSU minimum "e" admissions requirement. This assessment, however, does not provide any SDUSD graduation credits. In addition, while UC/CSU schools require a minimum of two years of world language for admission, they highly recommend three years. This level of proficiency is not certified by the LOTE Alternative Assessments.

Taking the LOTE Alternative Assessment does not preclude students from taking additional world language coursework; however, proper placement is critical. Students passing the Spanish LOTE should enroll in Spanish 5-6, Spanish 7-8 Honors, or AP Spanish to complete a third or fourth year of world language when they matriculate into Point Loma High School.

If you have any questions, or if you would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at the Office of Language Acquisition.

Respectfully,

*Jonathan Ton*

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