



San Diego Unified School District  
Office of Language Acquisition

Pathways for Meeting the World Language Graduation Requirement

Pathway	Guidance	Documentation
<p><b>1. Completion of two years of district world language courses*</b></p> <p><b>2. Completion of two years of district-approved IWLS Courses*</b></p> <p><i>Students will earn a grade/graduation credit for each course taken.</i></p>	<p>Students will earn graduation credit for world language courses taken at an SDUSD school in Grades 7 – 12. Students enrolled in world language courses at District-approved Independent World Language Schools may earn graduation credit while enrolled at a District high school in Grades 9 – 12 (per Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations).</p> <p><b>*NOTE: Validation of a Language Other Than English</b> In accordance with the UC/CSU LOTE Validation Policy, in which “the completion of higher-level (advanced) course in areas of sequential knowledge demonstrates proficiency of lower-level coursework in the same subject area for the purpose of satisfying the UC freshman admission subject requirements,” students who complete the equivalent of a second year of a language (or higher) will meet the LOTE graduation requirement.</p>	<p>Student grades will be recorded on SDUSD transcripts.</p>
<p><b>3. Passing an SAT II, AP, or IB exam</b></p> <p><i>District grade/ graduation credit may be earned by AP and IB students <b>formally enrolled</b> in the course.</i></p> <p><i>No district graduation credit or grade will be earned for SAT II exams or AP/IB exams taken by students <b>not formally enrolled</b> in the course.</i></p>	<p>Score of 3, 4, or 5 on an AP Language and Culture or AP Literature exam.</p> <p>Score of 5, 6, or 7 on an IB Language HL exam.</p> <p>Scores as follows on the SAT II Subject Test:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinese with listening – 520</li> <li>• French/French with listening – 540</li> <li>• German/German with listening – 510</li> <li>• Modern Hebrew – 470</li> <li>• Italian – 520</li> <li>• Korean with listening – 500</li> <li>• Latin – 530</li> <li>• Spanish/Spanish with listening – 520</li> </ul>	<p>Student grades will be recorded on SDUSD transcripts for students <b>formally enrolled</b> in AP and IB courses.</p> <p>For SAT II Subject Test and students taking an AP or IB exam while <b>not formally enrolled</b> in the course:</p> <p>Option 3 checked on LOTE Proficiency Certification with principal’s signature.</p>
<p><b>4. Formal schooling in a Language other than English (LOTE)</b></p> <p><i>No district graduation credit or grade will be earned.</i></p>	<p>Students with transcripts documenting a minimum of two years of formal education in a language other than English at or beyond Grade 6 have met the world language graduation requirement. Consecutive enrollment is not required.</p>	<p>School transcripts or other enrollment document.</p> <p>Option 4 checked on LOTE Proficiency Certification with principal’s signature.</p>
<p><b>5. Passing a LOTE Alternative Assessment with Principal Certification</b></p> <p><i>No district graduation credit or grade will be earned.</i></p>	<p>Students who have never had the opportunity to take a world language course, or who do not have transcripts to document formal education in a language other than English, may choose to demonstrate proficiency via a LOTE Alternative Assessment.</p> <p>Assessments are currently available in <b>Arabic, Cambodian, Filipino, French, German, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, and Vietnamese.</b></p>	<p>Proficient score on written exam. Oral/aural proficiency verified by speaker of the student’s language.</p> <p>Option 5 checked on LOTE Proficiency Certification with principal’s signature.</p>

Pathway	Guidance	Documentation
<p><b>6. Assessment by a college or university</b></p> <p><i>No district graduation credit or grade will be earned.</i></p>	<p>Some university language departments will conduct an assessment and issue a statement of competency on official letterhead. This formal document will show that the student has met the world language graduation requirement.</p> <p>Students should contact the college or university directly in order to schedule an assessment. Students will be responsible for any expenses incurred during the assessment process.</p>	<p>College or university verification of proficiency.</p> <p>Option 6 checked on LOTE Proficiency Certification with principal's signature.</p>
<p>Reference: University of California Validation Matrix  <a href="http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/validation_matrix_math_lote.pdf">http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/files/validation_matrix_math_lote.pdf</a></p>		

## LOTE FAQs

### **What is LOTE?**

LOTE = Language Other than English = World Language. All students, starting with the Class of 2016, need to demonstrate proficiency in English and a language other than English in order to meet SDUSD graduation requirements.

### **What is LOTE proficiency?**

For SDUSD graduation purposes, students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English **equivalent to** two years of formal instruction in that language. This **does not mean** that students need two years of seat time in a world language class. (See note below)

### **How do students demonstrate LOTE proficiency?**

There are 6 options for students to demonstrate proficiency and satisfy the world language graduation requirement. The majority of students will do this via the first two options:

1. Take 2 years of world language courses in an SDUSD school
2. Take 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. Completing 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 assessment (assessments are currently available in Arabic, Cambodian, Filipino, French, German, Japanese, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, and Vietnamese).
6. Receiving a certificate of proficiency from a college or university

### **Can my student waive the LOTE graduation requirement?**

No. Every student who intends to graduate from an SDUSD high school must meet the requirement in one of the six ways listed above.

### **What if my student has a 504 or an IEP?**

Please consult with your student's counselor and/or SST for additional information.

### **What if my student already speaks a language other than English?**

Please review options 3 through 6 above. Students who already speak a language other than English may be able to satisfy the world language requirement without having to be enrolled in two years of world language courses. (See note below)

**\*NOTE:** The LOTE requirement is about **language proficiency**, not seat time. Passing a higher-level course validates the course of study for any lower level courses. For example, if a student passes French 5-6, he or she will earn graduation credit for that course and will meet the world language requirement since 5-6 is a third-year course. SDUSD considers a "D" to be a passing grade, but a "C" or better is required for UC/CSU admission.