

Leverage Bilingualism

Careers for Bilinguals

¿Hablas español?

¿Bilingual vs Biliterate?

Bilingual

Definition of bilingual

- 1: having or expressed in two languages a bilingual document an officially bilingual nation
- 2: using or able to use two languages especially with equal fluency (i.e. bilingual in English and Japanese)
- 3: of or relating to bilingual education

Source: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/bilingual>

Biliterate

Definition of biliterate

1: able to **read and write** two different languages

Source: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/biliterate>

Bicultural

Oxford Dictionaries defines biculturalism as "having or combining the cultural attitudes and customs of two nations, peoples, or ethnic groups."

**¿Why is speaking Spanish
fluently so important?**

Introduction

Approximately 80 percent (or 223.2 million people) of Americans use only English at home. The remaining 20 percent (or 55.8 million people) speak a language other than English at home.¹

About 20% of the U.S. population are LEP. They still need to access healthcare, banks, interact with government institutions (courts, dmv, etc.) How can they do so if they don't speak the language?

Bilingual workers can assist to fill language gap. In almost every line of work the ability to speak a second language makes you a valuable asset.

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/LIVING/worklife/09/10/cb.industries.bilingual/>

¹ Source: U.S. Census Bureau's 2006 American Community Survey

First Point

Being fluent in Spanish can lead to more employment opportunities and higher wages

Spanish Language

- The United States is now **the world's second largest Spanish-speaking country after Mexico**
- There are **41 million** native Spanish speakers in the U.S. plus an additional 11.6 million individuals who are bilingual, mainly the children of Spanish-speaking immigrants.
- This puts the U.S. ahead of Colombia (48 million) and Spain (46 million) and second only to Mexico (121 million).
- **The U.S. Census Office estimates that the U.S. will have 138 million Spanish speakers by 2050, making it the biggest Spanish-speaking nation in the world, with Spanish the mother tongue of almost a third of its citizens.**

Be Competitive

Bilingual opponents see bilingualism as a threat to our national security.

“To prosper economically and to improve relations with other countries,” U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan declared in 2010, **“Americans need to read, speak and understand other languages.”**

Duncan pointed out, **only 18% of Americans report speaking a language other than English**, while 53% of Europeans (and increasing numbers in other parts of the world) can converse in a second language and often more.

Source:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/collegeprose/2012/08/27/americas-foreign-language-deficit/#67b6811a4ddc>

Hispanics in the U.S.

Hispanics in the United States break down into three groups when it comes to their use of language:

- 36% are bilingual,
- 25% mainly use English, and
- 38% mainly use Spanish.

Among those who speak English, **59% are bilingual.**

Source: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/03/24/a-majority-of-english-speaking-hispanics-in-the-u-s-are-bilingual/>

Hispanics in the U.S.

57.5 million

As of July 1, **2016**, the Hispanic population in the United States reached 57.5 million, making people of Hispanic origin the nation's largest ethnic or racial minority. Hispanics constituted **17.8** percent of the nation's total population.

Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/PEP/2016/PEPASR6H>

Hispanics in the U.S.

119 million

The projected Hispanic population of the United States in **2060**.

According to this projection, the Hispanic population will constitute **28.6** percent of the nation's population by that date.

Source: 2014 National Population Projections, Table 10

www.census.gov/data/tables/2014/demo/popproj/2014-summary-tables.html

Industries

1. Hospitality
2. Education
3. Law enforcement
4. Customer Service
5. Social Work
6. Finance
7. Communication (i.e. Interpreters and Translators)
8. Nearly any job

Second Point

What do you need to work as a translator or interpreter?

¿Translator vs Interpreter?

29%

The projected growth for employment among interpreters and translators is projected to grow 29 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations.

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/interpreters-and-translators.htm#tab-5>

Translation

trans·la·tion

noun

1. the process of translating words or **text** from one language into another.

Translation is the communication of meaning from one language into another. Translation refers to **written** information.

Interpretation

In·ter·pre·ta·tion | noun

the action of explaining the meaning of something.

Interpretation is the act of explaining, reframing, or otherwise showing your own understanding of something. A person who translates one language into another is called an **interpreter** because they are explaining what a person is saying to someone who doesn't understand.

Start: ATA

The American Translators Association is the voice of translators and interpreters in the United States. Find information on training and resources. <https://www.atanet.org/aboutus/index.php>

Certificate vs Certification

- Medical
- Legal
- Community
- Conference
- Field of specialization for translators

Third Point

What can you do starting now?

1. Pursue the Seal of Biliteracy
2. Get good grades in English
3. Get good grades in Spanish
4. Focus on learning
5. Practice: Read in both languages

Seal of Biliteracy Requirements

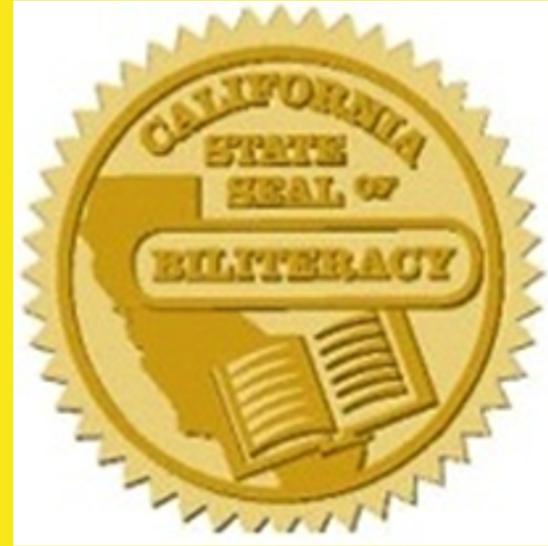
The SSB provides recognition to high school students who have demonstrated proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing, in one or more languages in addition to English.

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/el/le/yr17ltr1107.asp>

Don't wait!

Do your best in all your classes including, and especially, in English and Spanish.

[Seal of Biliteracy](#)



“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

- Frank Smith, *To Think: In Language, Learning and Education*

Above all, learn to

in more

than one language

Thanks!

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