

LEAD! INFORMATION SHEET

LEAD! is a program which allows students to engage deeply in their studies of World Languages at **Walter Johnson High School**. Students are encouraged to communicate in a variety of world languages, pursue at least one world language to the highest possible level, and explore the history and cultures of world communities. Any student may opt to join the **LEAD!** program. Students are encouraged to declare their intent to participate by the end of the 9th grade.

The **LEAD!** program is separate from the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy. Taking the Seal of Biliteracy exam and/or earning the Seal of Biliteracy does not exempt LEAD! students from any of the LEAD! requirements. LEAD! participants often earn the Seal of Biliteracy in one or more languages.

All coursework needed to fulfill the LEAD! program requirements must be done at Walter Johnson High School. No outside coursework will count towards program completion.

LEAD! Program Requirements

To participate in this program, students will:

- ❖ Study one World Language through the AP[®] level and earn a score of 3 or higher on that AP[®] exam.
- ❖ Study a second World Language through at least level 2.
- ❖ Complete three additional courses from the options below:
 - At least 1 and up to 2 of the following:
 - AP[®] Art History
 - AP[®] European History
 - AP[®] Human Geography
 - AP[®] World History
 - AP[®] Comparative Government
 - The 3rd year (and subsequent years) of the 2nd World Language.
 - The 1st year (and subsequent years) of a 3rd World Language.
- ❖ Earn a minimum grade of B in any course used to complete program requirements.

❖ Senior Project

Senior Project Requirement

Completion of a major project is to be proposed by the spring of the student's junior year and approved by the World Languages Department. The project should showcase the LEAD! scholar's language proficiency and cultural immersion. For example:

- Community service internship that makes use of the student's communicative skills
- Travel blog of summer stay and studies abroad
- Detailed and extensive research into a particular aspect of the language and culture

Recognition and Benefits

- **LEAD! Scholars** will be recognized at graduation with honor cords and a special designation in the graduation program.
- **College Board AP[®] Scholars** are students who pass three or more AP[®] exams. Many LEAD! scholars will earn this recognition through LEAD! program requirements.
- **College credit** may be earned in high school by attaining top AP exam scores
- **Preparation** for rigorous college coursework.

To apply for the **LEAD!** program, complete the [Intent to Participate](#) form linked here or on the WJHS website under Academic Programs.

Please refer any questions to **LEAD!** Program Coordinator, Maria_G_Cavallini@mcpsmd.org.