



Research indicates that the study of another language is most effectively accomplished if it begins at an early age, is sequential and continues for a long term without interruption. To encourage more students to begin language study in middle school and continue into Level II in high school, the Anchorage School District offers a World Languages Incentive Credit option.

***Who will qualify for the World Languages Incentive Credit option?***

Students who complete *two* years of language study while in middle school (courses 1A and 1B), enroll as ninth-graders in the fall of the same language, and complete both semesters of this year-long course with a grade of C or better, are eligible to earn the incentive credit.

***How will students receive the World Languages Incentive Credit?***

Students request that the graded credit be added to their transcript on the ASD high school Credit Application form and submit the form to their counselor. Students' fourth-quarter grade from their eighth-grade world language course will be posted on their high school transcript for their ninth-grade year.

***Will the World Languages Incentive Credit affect overall GPA?***

Yes. The incentive credit is one graded credit and will affect GPA and class rank. The credit will count as a one-year elective credit toward graduation requirements.

***What other incentives are available to students of World Languages?***

- Students may waive the .5 credit social studies requirement by completion of Level III, IV, V, or AP of one or more of the World Languages offered: ASL, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Latin, Russian, or Spanish. Immersion students may also waive .5 social studies requirement by completion of approved immersion courses (see back side for complete listing).
- Japanese, Russian and Spanish language immersion students who have

# Anchorage School District World Languages Incentive Credit by Choice

## Anchorages Answer Key

### ***What is the goal of the World Languages Incentive Credit by Choice?***

The incentive credit is an option to encourage students to begin their second language study in middle school and continue into a Level II course of the same language in high school.

### ***Why is there an incentive credit for World Languages?***

Research and experience show that students are more successful language learners if they begin studying a second language before high school. Students will acquire higher levels of proficiency in speaking, writing, reading and listening comprehension skills that will be beneficial during educational and/or work careers. Research study results show a correlation between high school foreign language study and higher academic performance at the college level.

### ***Will students earn a graded credit?***

Yes. Students entering high school are eligible to receive one graded credit if they meet the incentive credit requirements: complete two years of the same language study while in middle school (courses 1A and 1B); enroll in Level II of the same language in high school; and complete both semesters of the year long high school course with a "C" or better. Students must initiate this process by completing the ASD Credit by Choice application and return to their counselor once they complete level II at the high school level.

### ***Which grade is posted on the transcript?***

The student's fourth quarter grade from the eighth grade language course is the grade posted on the transcript in the ninth grade year for the Level I course.

### ***Will students still need to complete two years (Levels II and III) at the high school to fulfill college entry requirements?***

While there is no ASD requirement, it is recommended that students complete a minimum of 2-3 years language study while in high school. Colleges often have "entry and/or exit" language requirements. Successful completion of courses that are Level III and above will prepare students for most post-secondary programs. Each college/university has its own set of admission requirements and/or graduation requirements so it is very important to research this before making the decision to stop language study after Level II.

### ***What is the .5 Social Studies waiver?***

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