



The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages  
of the New York State Education Department



presents:

*Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally  
Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A  
(Modern Languages\*)*

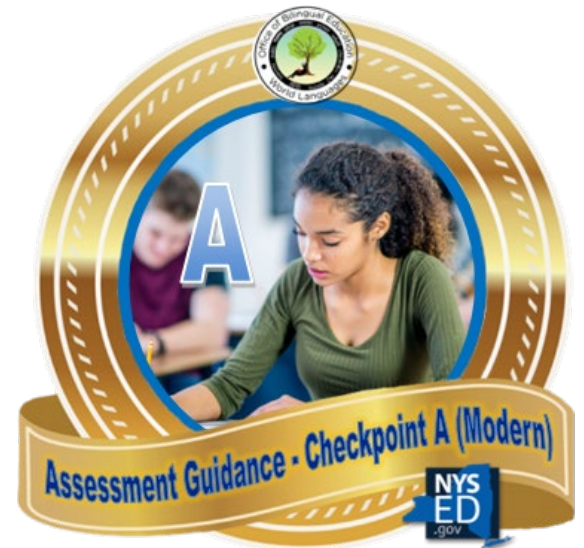
*\*This webinar is designed for teachers of modern languages, other than American Sign Language. We anticipate being able to offer both a guidance document and a webinar in the future that specifically focuses on guidelines for Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments in American Sign Language.*

Presenters: Dr. Joanne O'Toole, Bill Heller, and Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, 4:00-5:00 pm

1 hour of CTLE credit offered

The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) presents this first webinar in its 2024 Professional Learning Series: **Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A (Modern Languages)**. This webinar is offered free of charge for world language administrators and leaders working and studying in New York State educational institutions.



Webinar description: In this session, the presenters will explain the general principles and protocols outlined in the NYSED-OBEWL document, Principles and Guidelines for Adopting or Creating Locally Developed Benchmark Assessments for Checkpoint A (Modern Languages). This document provides guidance to Local Educational Agencies and regional and statewide consortia for the creation of Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments for Modern Languages aligned to the revised NYS Learning Standards for World Languages. Benchmark assessments are those assessments used to award one high school credit for middle school students prior to entering Grade 9 and to meet the one-credit graduation requirement. Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments must be aligned to the revised standards for the June 2025 administration. This webinar is designed for teachers of modern languages, other than American Sign Language. We anticipate being able to offer both a guidance document and a webinar in the future that specifically focuses on guidelines for Checkpoint A Benchmark Assessments in American Sign Language.

Registration process: All participants are encouraged to pre-register for this event. Pre-registration will close on Friday, January 19, 2024; there will be no same-day registrations. Once the registrant's email address has been verified as being from a New York State school, college, or university, an email confirming their registration will be sent. Twenty-four hours prior to the event, all registered individuals will receive login

instructions with the link to join the webinar. **Only pre-registered attendees will be eligible for a certificate documenting attendance and/or CTLE hours.**

**Link to registration form:** <https://wnys.wufoo.com/forms/p1ni67400314gvv/>

For more information on professional learning webinars for world language educators, please visit our website: <http://www.nysed.gov/world-languages/professional-learning>

Webinar presenters:

**Dr. Joanne O'Toole** is a Professor of Modern Language Education in the Curriculum and Instruction Department at SUNY Oswego. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the NYSED World Languages Content Advisory Panel and the Principal Investigator of the NYS World Language Standards Initiative. Joanne has served in several world language leadership positions including NYSAFLT President and NECTFL Director, and is a regular presenter at national, regional, state, and local conferences. Joanne is a certified teacher of Spanish and taught Spanish for 16 years prior to entering post-secondary education.



**Bill Heller** has taught in public elementary, secondary, community college and undergraduate classrooms for 40 years, including 24 years teaching Spanish at Perry High School. He has been a methods and Spanish instructor at SUNY Geneseo since 2001. He is a frequent presenter of workshops, webinars and keynotes. Bill served as Conference Chair for the 2018 Northeast Conference (NECTFL) and is currently a member of the Executive Board and Content Advisory Panel for World Languages at the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

**Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez** began her language teaching career as a teacher of Spanish, French and ESL. She holds a Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics and a Doctorate in Curriculum and Teaching from Teachers College, Columbia University. She is currently the Director of World and Classical Languages & Global Language Initiatives at the Dalton School in New York City. Lori is the author of books, texts and articles about language teaching and learning and multicultural education. She presents workshops at local, regional and national conferences and works with teachers in schools throughout the U.S. and around the world. Her website ([www.miscositas.com](http://www.miscositas.com)) offers free materials for teaching Chinese, English, French, and Spanish.

