

Foreign Exchange Students

A foreign exchange student is defined as a student from a foreign country studying in the United States under the sponsorship of an exchange organization.

Placement

Each organization wishing to place a student will submit a letter of intent to do so to the principal of the school by March 1 of the preceding school year. The student's host family must reside in the school's attendance zone. The student must attend the school in the host family's attendance zone. If the host family has a student with an open enrollment transfer, the exchange student may attend with that host student. Qualifying organizations will receive a letter of approval by April 10 signed by the principal or the foreign student director. This letter must be shown to the Counseling Department chair at the time of the initial student registration. By May 1 of the preceding school year, the sponsoring organizations will be notified of any openings and may submit a request to enroll additional students. These additional students will be apportioned equally from each submitting organization. An organization wishing to place additional students must notify the school of intent to do so by May 31.

Organizations that have been approved for one of the five (5) openings per high school will submit an application by June 1 containing the names of potential students and their host families. The application must contain the name and address of the local representative of the foreign exchange organization, a translated transcript of previous course work, a student profile, and a GTELP test score or other comparable test verifying English proficiency. Applications will be reviewed for placement and organizations will be notified by June 15 which students will be accepted for enrollment. Organizations which do not meet these deadlines as stated above will not be allowed to place a foreign exchange student.

Foreign exchange students from charter schools will not be accepted for dual-enrollment if the foreign exchange student quota has been reached at the specific school site.

After a six week adjustment period, the Counseling Department chairperson will notify the local sponsor if a foreign exchange student is not achieving, has not reached acceptable proficiency in English, or has other problems of adjustment. Sponsors and organizations that do not consistently screen and monitor foreign exchange students and their host families may lose the privilege of placing students in this District.

Requirements

Students must have oral proficiency in the English language. It will be the responsibility of the sponsoring organization to provide tutors and any other necessary assistance required to help

foreign exchange students meet academic standards. If this cannot be accomplished, the foreign exchange student may be required to relocate.

Foreign exchange students are expected to participate in classes as regular high school students. They will not be enrolled on a non-credit or audit basis. They are required to take the examinations and do all work assigned by the teacher of the classes in which they are enrolled. This includes complying with the District's attendance and discipline policies. However, foreign students are not eligible for driver education.

Foreign exchange students will be responsible for their own school expenses, such as yearbooks, class rings, lunches, and activity passes. The District may charge foreign exchange students tuition as recommended by the Idaho State Department of Education.

Foreign exchange students who are taking senior courses will be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies if they have passed all their assigned courses. They will receive a certificate of completion. A diploma may be granted only with school administration recommendation and approval by the Superintendent or designee.

Non-immigrant student status is a category of temporary visitors to the United States reserved for individuals attending academic institutions in the U.S., including high schools that are not sponsored by a visitor exchange program. "Foreign student" means an alien having a residence in a foreign country which he or she has no intention of abandoning, who is a bona fide student qualified to pursue a full course of study, and who seeks to enter the United States temporarily and solely for the purpose of pursuing such a course of study at an established academic high school particularly designated by him/her and approved by the Attorney General after consultation with the Secretary of Education.

- The numbers of non-foreign exchange students will be limited to (5) per high school, subject to class load.
- Once accepted, status remains in effect for the period of 12 months.

The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) coordinator for the building will collect and forward all necessary and completed information as required by SEVIS to the district office.

Tuition for non-immigrant students is based upon recommendation by the Idaho State Department of Education.

Procedure History:

Promulgated on: August 11, 2014

Revised on: October 5, 2015