



Code: **JECBA-AR**
Revised/Reviewed: 10/10/88; 2/13/91; 7/03/97;
11/07/05; 9/24/14
Orig. Code(s): JECBA-AR

Admission of Foreign Exchange Students

1. State department guidelines stipulate that a group-sponsored student must obtain school approval and family placement before leaving his/her home country. Foreign exchange students must be sponsored by a Council on Standards for International Travel approved program (e.g., ICC, AFS). The district requires that placement of an exchange student must be with a family currently residing within the district.
2. Foreign students attending district schools through group-sponsored exchange programs must obtain a J-1 Visa from the U.S. Department of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) which they must show upon registration. Approved group-sponsored exchange programs are those designated by the United States Information Agency. Foreign students on a J-1 Visa are not required to pay tuition.
3. Foreign students attending district schools through private sponsorship must obtain an F-1 Visa and prior approval required by the Citizenship and Immigration Services. Pursuant to federal law, foreign students on an F-1 Visa may only attend secondary schools within the district and are required by law to pay the district's established tuition rate for the period of attendance. The period of attendance may not exceed 12 months. Efforts will be made to balance the gender and ethnic backgrounds of foreign exchange students.
4. The student or sponsoring organization will provide all dues and fees.
5. All application materials including grades and letters of recommendation must be sent and approved by the high school administrator in charge of foreign exchange students.
6. The maximum number of foreign exchange students is limited to six. Less may be enrolled when it is determined that it is not in the best interest of the student or the school. All potential organizations or individuals will obtain approval from the high school administrator by July 1 for the ensuing school year. Applications may not be accepted after July 1.
7. In addition, up to two students may be accepted at any one time for short-term programs at the discretion of the building administrator.
8. A foreign student will receive an honorary Centennial High School diploma, unless his/her prescribed course of study includes completion of requirements for a standard diploma. Counselors will review an appropriate course of study and will give a written recommendation to the student. The recommendation will specify either an honorary or standard diploma. All full-year students in good standing may participate in graduation ceremonies regardless of diploma received.

9. Prior to approving enrollment of foreign exchange students, the following must occur:
 - a. Residence in the district with a host family must be verified;
 - b. English competence must be verified by either an interview, a score of 450 or more on the TOEFL English Proficiency Test or an equivalent test or three or more years of classes in English with a B average;
 - c. An application folder with grades and letters of recommendation must be reviewed and approved by the high school administrator responsible for foreign exchange students.

10. The high school administration reserves the right to terminate attendance if the student does not comply with the high school academic/behavioral standards that apply to that student.