

Admission of Exchange Students

School District 549C, shall accept, without tuition, students from other countries who are participating in exchange programs officially recognized by the Board of Education and meet the following requirements: The district will accept exchange students from other nations on a J-1 Visa who reside within the district as participants in an exchange program officially recognized by the Board. Exchange students on a J-1 Visa are not required to pay tuition.

Privately sponsored exchange students on an F-1 Visa may be enrolled if an adult resident of the district has been given temporary guardianship and the student lives in the home of that guardian. Exchange students on an F-1 Visa are required to pay tuition at the established district rate. F-1 student admission is limited to secondary schools and attendance may not exceed 12 months.

District Approval of Programs

1. A district application for program approval completed and on file.
2. The program must be nonprofit.
3. A program representative responsible for the exchange student must live within the Rogue Valley.
4. The program's record of student placement should reflect a realistic ratio between students inbound and students outbound.
5. The program must accept full responsibility for the student, including those obligations related to immigration (VISA) requirements. The district is not responsible for issuing I-20 forms.

Foreign Exchange Student Placement

1. All students placed in the district must have a designated back-up host family.
2. No more than three (3) students may be placed in the district by any one program. These three students cannot be from the same country.
3. Students must be competent in the English language (in reading, writing, speaking, and comprehensive skills); therefore, programs must show evidence of language skills screening. Students placed in the district must function with a reasonable degree of language proficiency.
4. The program must first obtain permission from the Director of Secondary Education to place each individual student. Only after this permission has been granted can the student be enrolled at the high school.

5. Complete records necessary for enrollment (including previous school transcripts) must be provided at the time of school registration.
6. Students will not be allowed to take an overload of academic subjects nor take night classes outside of the school curriculum.

Limitations

1. The total number of exchange students in the district at the high school level will be limited to sixteen (16). No more than eight (8) may be placed at any one high school.
2. Students must be registered before the first day of school. Students arriving after that date will not be accepted.
3. Regular diplomas will not be granted to one-year exchange students. Those students who actively participate in the total school program will be granted honorary diplomas at the end of the school year.
4. A transcript record for each student will be provided upon request.

The district reserves the right to refuse admission to any foreign exchange student if it determines that placement will adversely affect the overall educational program. Exchange programs that do not maintain standards supportive of district policy and guidelines may not be approved.

Exceptions to the above guidelines may only be made by the Director of Secondary Education.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 339.133](#)
[ORS 433.267](#)

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

Illegal Immigration and Immigration Reform Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. §§ 1101, 1221, 1252, 1324, 1363, 1367 (2006).