

Admission of Foreign Exchange Students

Prerequisites

1. State department guidelines stipulate that a group-sponsored student must obtain school approval and family placement before leaving their home country.
2. Foreign students attending district schools through group-sponsored exchange programs must obtain a “J” Visa from the U.S. Department of Immigration and Naturalization Service which they must show upon registration. Approved group-sponsored exchange programs are those designated by the United States Information Agency and officially recognized by the Board. 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 Immigration and Naturalization Service. 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.
4. The student or sponsoring organization will provide all dues and fees.

Program Guidelines

1. The high school may accept a maximum of four full-year students from foreign countries.
2. Candidates will be selected from foreign exchange programs at the discretion of the administrator.
3. In addition, up to two students may be accepted at any one time from short-term programs at the discretion of the administrator.
4. All potential organizations or individuals will obtain approval from the high school administrator.
5. 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.
6. Foreign exchange students will be assigned to a grade level based on the actual number of years they have attended school, English language skills and other criteria as determined by the principal. It will be the responsibility of the exchange organization, student and/or their host family to provide official documents in English for evaluation. If the principal or designee lacks sufficient documentation to make a determination the student will be placed at a grade level deemed appropriate by the principal.

To qualify for an honorary diploma, a foreign exchange student must be assigned to the twelfth grade and complete the full school year.

To qualify for a standard diploma, the exchange organization, student and/or host family must provide official documentation deemed sufficient by the principal to evaluate their actual qualifications. The principal or designee will do an evaluation of the documentation and determine if the student qualifies under Oregon statute and district policy for a standard diploma. The student and/or host family may appeal the decision of the principal to the superintendent. The decision of the superintendent is final.