

Lower Merion School District

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

Policy: 214
Section: STUDENTS
Title: INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS
Date Adopted: 5/20/19
Date Last Revised:

R214 INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Guidelines

International exchange students shall comply with all enrollment and immunization requirements for students. Once admitted, all exchange students shall be subject to all school rules, Board Policies, and Administrative Regulations governing students.

Admission of International exchange students shall be subject to the following guidelines:

- Students will be considered for admission for not less than one (1) academic semester, and not more than one (1) full academic school year.
- Applications for exchange students should be directed to the Superintendent or designee.
- Students shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- Students may not be a graduate of their native school system.
- Students will be considered for admittance on a space available basis.
- Resident host families shall submit a statement accepting responsibility for the student and verifying they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.
- Exchange students shall be eligible to participate in all student activities and athletics, provided eligibility criteria are met.
- Exchange students are expected to understand, ask, answer questions, and speak English to the extent required in the classroom setting.
- Exchange students are not eligible to receive a high school diploma but are eligible to receive a certificate of participation, along with transcript grades earned during their time in attendance.

The District is required to screen International exchange students using the Pennsylvania ELL identification procedure, which shall include the administration of the Home Language Survey to International exchange students enrolling in District schools. Students identified as English Learners shall be assessed and provided appropriate instruction in accordance with the District's Language Instruction Educational Program (LEIP) and Board Policy.

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If an International exchange student is identified as an ELL they must:

- Be placed with the District's LIEP as appropriate based on language proficiency;
- Be included in Pennsylvania Integrated Management System (PIMS) and the English Learner Reporting System (ELRS) as ELs;
- Participate in the annual state English language proficiency assessment (ACCESS for ELLs); and
- Participate in the PSSA/Keystone Exams, as required by law.

Legal References

8 U.S.C. Sec 1101
20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq
22 PA Code Sec. 4.74
22 CFR Part 62