



International Exchange Program Guidelines

Academics

International Exchange Students are not eligible to receive a high school diploma from Volusia County Schools. All students must pursue a full course of study of not less than one full academic year. An academic year consists of two semesters that consecutively follow each other during one school year. Please refer to the Volusia County Schools 2024-2025 calendar for additional information. No International Exchange Students will be accepted for one (1) semester.

Approval

Volusia County Schools – The Office of World Languages and Electives will review each complete student agency packet, within eight (8) working days. After reviewing each complete student agency packet, signed approved or denied permission form will be returned to the agency.

Number of International Exchange Students per School

The enrollment of International Exchange Students at any high school will be limited to (8) eight students with no more than (4) four students from any one sponsoring agency.

Zoned School

An International Exchange Student will attend the school that serves the address of the host family. Therefore, it is imperative that the sponsoring agency verify the availability of openings at a school prior to placing a student with a host family. The sponsoring agency should verify availability with the International Student Exchange office at 386-734-7190 (x20569) or gkkeller@volusia.k12.fl.us .

Enrollment

An International Exchange Student enrolling in Volusia County Schools may do so as a 9th, 10th or 11th grader, and must not have completed more than 11 years of primary and secondary study, exclusive of Kindergarten. No International Exchange Student will be allowed to enroll in the 12th grade. No home country high school graduates will be allowed to enroll in Volusia County Schools. Students should enroll in school as soon as the required immunizations have been accomplished. This will optimize class selection and provide adequate time to become familiar with the zoned school and community. Students are expected to be present on the first day of school.

Graduation

International Exchange Students will not be eligible to receive a Volusia County Schools high school diploma. No International Exchange Student will be enrolled as a senior.

Transfers

Volusia County Schools will not accept International Exchange Students who transfer from another school system or from a private school. School-to-school transfers within Volusia County Schools should be avoided, protecting instructional and social integrity.

Transcript

Upon completion of the stay in Volusia County, the International Exchange Student shall be issued an official transcript of all classes completed. Students should speak to the school registrar and/or their counselor to request their transcripts.

Employment

Agency regulations prohibit students from either full-time or part-time employment while attending Volusia County Schools. International Exchange Students may accept sporadic to intermittent employment such as tutoring, yard work, pet sitting, babysitting, etc.

Code of Student Conduct

International Exchange Students must comply with the current “Code of Student Conduct” for Volusia County students. Students may request copy of the Code of Conduct guidelines from the school they will be attending.

Immunizations

International Exchange Students must have their original home immunization records transferred to the Florida Certification of Immunizations Form DH 680 (blue card). Host families should schedule an appointment with a physician or the Department of Health, as soon as possible upon their International Exchange Student’s arrival. This completed form must be presented to the school registrar when the International Exchange Student registers for classes. Please refer to the link below to see which immunizations are required for attending Volusia County Schools. <https://www.vcsedu.org/sites/default/files/department-files/Student%20Health%20Services/Immunization%20Schedule%20%202019.pdf>

Athletics/ School-Sanctioned Activities and Clubs

Participation in athletics competition is governed by the FHSAA (Florida High School Athletic Association)

Website Link: <https://fhsaa.com/>

Select "**About FHSAA**" then "**Eligibility & Compliance**" then

"**International Student**" - *overview of the FHSAA requirements*

Select "**Parents**" *to access the forms that need to be completed*

Guidelines can vary from year to year. Once the student is registered at the high school, we recommend that the host parent and student contact the school's Athletic Director. Students may also be eligible to participate in school-sanctioned activities and clubs. International Exchange Students should familiarize themselves with the school's website, where athletics, clubs and activities are listed.

Please note: all dates vary according to each school. International Exchange Students who are interested in participating in athletics **must** complete the following documents and **submit these documents with their application:**

EL2 (Pages 1-2 - completed by birth parent)

(Pages 3-5 - completed by host parent and a State of Florida doctor after arrival)

EL3 - (completed by birth parent)

GA4 - (completed by birth parent)

EL4 - **this form is not on the FHSAA website** (will be completed by school Athletic Director and host parent once the student shows interest in a sport)

Driving

United States Information Agency regulation prohibits International Exchange Students from driving an automobile while in the United States. Therefore, International Exchange Students will not be permitted to enroll in Drivers' Education.