Newport-Mesa
Unified School District

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT FAQS

Q. What kind of visa are you required to have to be considered for placement at an NMUSD school as a foreign exchange student?
A. NMUSD only accepts students on a J1 visa. Students with a F1 visa will not be eligible (BP6145.6)

Q. Does a foreign exchange student have to apply through a government approved exchange agency?
A. Yes, applications will only be considered if they are submitted through a government approved exchange agency.

Q. How many foreign exchange students does NMUSD accept each year?
A. NMUSD only accepts 2 foreign exchange students per high school, per year, excluding Back Bay High School, Monte Vista High School and Early College High School.

Q. Which NMUSD high schools can foreign exchange students apply to attend?
A. Foreign exchange students can only attend the following high schools and must also be staying with a host family in the high school's boundary area:
Costa Mesa High School
Corona del Mar High School
Estancia High School
Newport Harbor High School

Q. How long can a foreign exchange student attend an NMUSD school?
A. Foreign exchange students can only attend an NMUSD for a maximum of one school year.

Q. Who can approve enrollment of a foreign exchange student and sign a visa application?
A. Only the Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education can approve the enrollment of a foreign exchange student and sign the visa application. Site principals cannot approve enrollment or applications.

Q. Will a 12th grade foreign exchange student receive a graduation diploma?
A. International exchange students may be considered for a diploma if they have satisfactorily completed the district's graduation requirements. Otherwise, students will receive an honorary diploma.

Q. Can foreign exchange students participate in high school athletics?
A. International exchange students shall be eligible for participation in interscholastic sports in accordance with state bylaws of the California Interscholastic Federation as well as applicable section bylaws.

Q. How do you initiate an application for a foreign exchange student?
A. Contact Clare Warner in the office of the Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education (cwarner@nmusd.us) if you are interested in applying for enrollment at an NMUSD as a foreign exchange student.

BP 6145.6 International Exchange
AR 6145.6 International Exchange
AR 5111.2 Nonresident Foreign Students