

Exchange and Non-Exchange Foreign Students

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

- *Exchange student* is defined as a student entering the U.S. on a J-1 visa under a program approved by the U.S. State Department.
- *Non-exchange foreign student* is defined as a student whose residence is outside the U.S. and who is attending school in the U.S. but is not sponsored by an exchange program approved by the U.S. State Department (e.g., a student with an F-1 visa).

Applicability

This policy applies to students who reside outside the U.S. and are visiting the country temporarily. Immigrant and migrant students residing in the District will be handled in accordance with applicable district policy. Residency shall be determined in accordance with the district's residency verification procedure and law.

Admission

A high school may accept exchange students as defined above. The District may waive tuition for such students. The District shall comply with all applicable laws related to admitting and educating exchange students.

Non-exchange students can only be admitted if the requested school is certified through the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). The District will comply with all applicable laws related to accepting a non-exchange foreign student, including approval through SEVP and charging tuition to the student's parent, guardian, or host.

Admission eligibility will be determined based upon the following criteria:

- Exchange students will be considered for admittance only when space is available. Each high school may admit up to six students.
- Exchange students shall be at least sixteen years of age, shall be sufficiently fluent in English, and have attended no more than two years of high school.
- Resident host families must live in the assigned school's boundary and shall submit a statement accepting responsibility for the student and verifying they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.
- Exchange students will be classified as grade 11. They are required to start on the first day of school and finish the year (no semester requests) and be enrolled in the required minimum course load for grade 11 students.
- Applications will be accepted between May 1 and July 1 of the preceding school year.

Once admitted, all students covered by this policy become subject to applicable district policies and regulations. Students shall be encouraged to participate in all student activities and athletics provided they meet eligibility requirements.

End of Bismarck Public School District Policy FDF

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