

The School Board of Collier County

Administrative Procedures

5114 – FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Per the District Guidelines for Registration and Enrollment, foreign exchange students who possess J-1 visas, are eligible for enrollment for the duration of stay permitted by the visa or other United State Department of Regulations upon proof of approval by the appropriate sponsoring agency, pending space available at the zoned school of the host family. Foreign exchange students must:

- A. have sufficient knowledge of the English language to participate in high school classes;
- B. submit a transcript in English of the secondary school work prior to enrollment;
- C. have provided appropriate insurance coverage;
- D. be accepted by a host family in the zone of attendance;
- E. have approval from the Director of Student Relations.

The host family will contact the guidance office at the home zoned high school to initiate the registration process. The following information must be provided:

- A. Proof of residency – the host family must provide three (3) proofs that they reside in the school zone as required in the Guidelines for Registration and Enrollment manual.
- B. Immunization – the host family will obtain a Florida Immunization Certificate by taking the student's immunization record to the Collier County Department of Health.
- C. Physical – the host family will provide evidence of a physical exam within the twelve (12) months prior to starting school by obtaining a school physical form.
- D. Student passport and J-1 Visa.

All foreign exchange students must be enrolled and participating in a full course of study and a full day schedule; and comply with all District rules and regulations. J-1 visa holders may be enrolled with the District for only one (1) academic year and must enroll at the beginning of a semester (either August or January of a given academic year. If a student enrolls in January of the academic year, he/she will not be able to continue on/after December of that year).

The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA) will determine athletic eligibility for J-1 students.

A Foreign Exchange Student Agreement must be signed by the student and guardians prior to enrollment with the District, with validations from the appropriate school official in the student's home country that participation in the exchange program is authorized and acceptable.

High School Diplomas

Foreign exchange program students who have received a high school diploma from another country are **NOT** eligible to enroll in the District.

Foreign exchange program students enrolled in the District are **NOT** eligible to receive a high school diploma or attend high school graduation. Any credits earned will be transferred back to the student's home country. However, class rings and yearbooks may be purchased on the same terms as they are by other students.

Refer to the Guidelines for Registration/Enrollment for further details.