

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: 239
SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS
ADOPTED: November 19, 2018

239. FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Purpose

In order to promote cultural awareness and understanding, and to provide diverse experiences to district students, the Board shall admit foreign exchange students into district schools.

Authority

The Board shall accept foreign exchange students who meet the criteria for admission to district schools established in Board policy and administrative regulations.

The Board shall accept exchange students on a J-1 Visa who reside within the district as participants in group-sponsored exchange programs approved by the Board. Exchange students on a J-1 Visa shall not be required to pay tuition.

The Board shall accept privately sponsored exchange students on an F-1 Visa for admission to secondary schools only upon payment of tuition at the established district rate; tuition payments may not be waived. The period of attendance shall not exceed twelve (12) months.

The Board reserves the right to limit the number of foreign exchange students admitted to the schools based on space availability and qualifying criteria.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for determining the visa status and eligibility of foreign exchange students applying for admission to district schools.

Guidelines

Foreign exchange students shall comply with all enrollment and immunization requirements for students. Once admitted, all exchange students shall be subject to all Board policies, administrative regulations and rules governing all district students.

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

1. Students shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age and shall be sufficiently fluent in English.
2. Students may not be a graduate of their native school system.
3. Students will be considered for admittance on a space available basis.
4. Resident host families shall submit a statement accepting responsibility for the student and verifying they are serving as a volunteer host without personal profit.
5. Exchange students shall be encouraged to participate in all student activities and athletics, provided eligibility criteria are met.
6. Exchange students are not eligible to receive a high school diploma but may be awarded an honorary diploma.

The district shall administer the Home Language Survey and the Family Interview to foreign 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 (LIEP) and Board policy.¹

¹ 20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq; 22 Pa. Code. 11.11; 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq; 8 U.S.C. 1101.