

Foreign Exchange Program Requirements



Application Procedures for Foreign Exchange Students

Foreign Exchange students must be represented by one of the approved foreign exchange programs to be considered for placement in a Community High School District 155 school. The approved programs are:

1. Academic Year in America (American Institute for Foreign Study Foundation)
2. American Field Service
3. American Intercultural Student Exchange
4. American International Youth Student Exchange Program
5. American Scandinavian Student Exchange (ASSE)
6. American Study Program for Educational and Cultural Training (ASPECT)
7. Amicus International Student Exchange Program
8. AYUSA (Academic Year in the U.S.A.) International
9. Center for Cultural Interchange
10. Cultural Homestay International
11. Educational Resource Development Trust
12. Forte International Exchange Agency
13. IBERO – American Cultural Exchange Program
14. International Fellowship, Inc.
15. NorthWest Student Exchange
16. Pacific Intercultural Exchange
17. PAX – Program of Academic Exchange
18. Rotary
19. Sister Cities International/AYUSA International Youth Exchange
20. Student Travel Schools (STS Foundation)
21. World Heritage International Student Exchange
22. Youth for Understanding

Only one foreign exchange student per organization will be eligible to enroll for one year in each District 155 School; placements for second semester only will be considered only if an appropriate schedule can be developed; and applications for the regular school year must be submitted to the principal (or designee) by the foreign exchange organization no later than July 1.

A maximum of two (2) foreign exchange students will be placed at each school per year.

Foreign exchange students who wish to attend a Community High School District 155 school must follow the application procedures. In addition, the principal (or designee) will approve students based on the following:

Requirements of Foreign Exchange Students for Enrollment:

- Students must be 17 – 19 years of age and a senior or graduate from home school.
- Students must have excellent academic and disciplinary standing in his/her current high school (upper 25% of class).
- Students should be proficient in the English language and be able to participate in regular/advanced level classes.
- Students must possess the emotional maturity required to participate in an exchange program.
- The principal (or designee) should have an opportunity to evaluate and approve each student exchange application which is submitted prior to the July 1 deadline.
- Exchange student's transcript shall not be reviewed or evaluated for graduation requirements and neither credits nor a transcript will be issued when the student departs from a District 155 high school. If requested, the principalship may issue a report card indicating courses taken on a pass/no credit basis.
- Exchange student's classification shall not impact the class rank of other students, the school graduation rate, or academic scholar selections (such as valedictorian).

Additional Consideration for Enrollment of Foreign Exchange Students:

- Each exchange student is encouraged to be hosted by a family with a student who currently attends the high school.
- Students enroll in the Foreign Exchange program for cultural enhancement. Thus, exchange students should be encouraged to take coursework in which they can learn about the history, government, and literature of the United States.

Guidelines for Foreign Exchange Students During the School Year:

- Students are expected to attain passing grades by the end of their first semester of attendance and should remain in good academic standing while enrolled in the program.
- Exchange students may experience senior-related activities based upon their academic and disciplinary standings. This may include participation in graduation exercises, limited to awarding of an honorary diploma.
- Exchange students participation in competitive athletics and/or activities will be governed by IHSA eligibility rules and procedures.

Student enrollment in the exchange program is subject to review at any time. District 155 reserves the right to terminate enrollment in the program for academic failure or for violation of the discipline policies of the host school and District 155.