



## **SECTION IV: STUDENTS**

## **POLICY 4130**

### **FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS**

Foreign exchange student programs are recognized as a means of improvement of international understanding. The exchange of culture through a student exchange program is viewed as a desirable supplement to the educational program.

Students from other countries who obtain student visas and who are temporary residents of the school district by virtue of living with legal resident families for a period of one or two years for the purpose of attending school in the community may be enrolled as foreign exchange students.

Because of the large number of such programs, it is necessary to restrict the number of students who may be enrolled as foreign exchange students in Broken Arrow Public Schools.

Authorization is given for the enrollment of ten (10) students per school year through approved foreign exchange programs. Not more than two (2) students from each sponsoring exchange program will be accepted as students. This limit of two (2) enrollments per exchange program may be exceeded at the discretion of the high school principal or designee in the event available enrollments exist on or after May 15th of each year.

Students seeking admission to Broken Arrow Public Schools through a student exchange program must file required application forms and related documents with the school district by June 1 of each year. Applications are to be submitted by the sponsoring program to the high school principal or designee. Applications received earliest will be given first consideration. Exceptions to the June 1 application deadline may be considered by the high school principal or designee on a case-by-case basis.

The applicant:

- Must be eligible to attend the senior high school and be at least 16 years of age as of the first day of school nor older than 19.
- Must have an J-1 student visa
- Must live with host family in the Broken Arrow School District or have a legal transfer
- Must demonstrate English speaking and reading skills
- Is preferred to stay with a host family that has a student attending Broken Arrow High School
- Must not have graduated from a high school or its equivalent
- Must provide an official transcript from the student's home school that is translated into English
- Must provide evidence of required immunizations
- Must provide evidence of health insurance
- Host family must be suitable, and may require an interview
- Cannot be selected as valedictorian or salutatorian
- Must understand that eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities are governed by the OSSAA

Organizations operating a foreign exchange program within the Broken Arrow School District must meet the following criteria:



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- The organization must be a J-1 member of the Council on Standards for International Education Travel (CSIET).
- The organization must be recognized by the President's Council for International Youth Exchange.

Foreign exchange students will not receive a diploma from BAHS. They will be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremonies and receive a certificate of attendance.

Foreign students (nonimmigrant alien status) who are not residents of the school district shall not be considered for enrollment if there is a requirement for processing of a U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service Form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Students."

Any request for a special exception to the policy concerning enrollment of foreign students shall be submitted in writing to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The Superintendent or designee will review the request for special consideration and submit a decision in writing to the parent/guardian within ten (10) school days. Following receipt of the written decision of the Superintendent or designee, the parent/guardian may request further review by submitting a written request to the Board of Education within ten (10) school days of receiving the written decision of the Superintendent or designee.

Source:

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy adoption, August, 1995.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, September 8, 1998.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, July 13, 2009.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, August 13, 2012.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, May 11, 2015.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, December 11, 2017.*

*Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revision, November 6, 2023.*