

ADMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS REGULATION

The high school principal of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) shall review applications for the admission of international exchange students according to the guidelines established below.

1. Students must be between the ages of fifteen and eighteen years and six months.
2. The student must have demonstrated in his/her home school a level of scholastic achievement to indicate the possibility of success in the high school.
3. The student must be proficient in the English language.
4. The student's records and credentials, including a translation into English, indicating all academic institutions attended, courses studied, and grades received in secondary school must be available to school officials no less than three weeks prior to the departure from the student's home or by June 15th for admission the following September.
5. The student must be in good health and an immunization record must be provided.
6. The student or the sponsoring organization must provide verification of health and accident insurance with a minimum limit of \$50,000.
7. The student must enroll for a full course of study, on a full-time basis.
8. The student must agree to conform to established standards of acceptable behavior and conform to the rules and regulations of the high school.

All applications will be reviewed by the international student advisor, the appropriate counselor, and the high school principal. After the review, a recommendation for the approval or rejection of the application will be submitted to the superintendent.

The District reserves the right to deny admission to any student not meeting all the requirements set forth in this policy and regulation.

Extracurricular Activities

The Board permits international exchange students to participate in all District extracurricular activities, provided they meet the District's eligibility requirements and follow the District's behavioral and academic rules. International students wishing to participate in interscholastic athletics must also:

1. (for students with J-1 visas) be sponsored by an organization both approved by the U.S. Department of State and accepted by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET); and
2. comply with all State Education Department and New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) rules and standards.

Registration; Graduation

1. The international exchange student must present himself/herself for registration prior to the first day of classes for the current semester.
2. At the time of registration, the international exchange student will be provided a form, to be signed by him/her; the host family; and, in the case of an international exchange student, a representative of the sponsoring organization, indicating compliance with the conditions as stated in this policy.
3. The international exchange student will be granted a certificate upon completion of an approved course of study and will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises, as appropriate.

Termination of Progress

A student's participation may be terminated at any time by school officials for failure to abide by established guidelines, including:

1. failure of two or more courses of study without sufficient effort;
2. failure to conform to established rules and regulations;
3. failure to conform to the regulations established by the sponsoring organization; and/or
4. excessive absences.

Suspension of Sponsoring Organization

Should the guarantee or documentation provided by a sponsoring organization prove invalid, further acceptance of international exchange students from that organization will be dependent upon proof of compliance with District policy and regulation.

Adoption date: January 20, 2016

Revised date: May 22, 2019