

## ADMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The Board of Education (the Board) of the Bethlehem Central School District (the District) recognizes the cultural enrichment derived from welcoming nonimmigrant international students into the educational program. Thus, the Board encourages the attendance of nonimmigrant international students in the District's high school.

Only nonimmigrant international students who possess a valid J-1 visa to study in the United States will be admitted to the District's high school. The Board retains the sole discretion to deny admission to any student not meeting all the requirements set forth in this policy and regulation.

### **International Exchange Students (J-1 Visa)**

The Board encourages District participation in an international exchange student program. International exchange students will be admitted to the District high school for a one-year academic program.

1. The District recognizes only those organizations designated as "Exchange Visitor Programs" by the U.S. Department of State, pursuant to federal regulations, as sponsoring organizations for the exchange of students. Any such organization must supply proof of designation prior to recognition.
2. No international exchange students subject to this policy and regulation shall be brought into the District by an international exchange student program unless he or she has been accepted in writing as a student by the high school principal or a designee.
3. International exchange students will be allowed to attend school and will be provided bus transportation to and from school free of charge, per transportation guidelines set by the Board.
4. When an international exchange student is accepted for admission pursuant to this policy and regulation, the letter of acceptance shall include a statement that tuition shall be waived for the student.
5. The District will accept no more than five international exchange students per school from any single international exchange program.
6. The host family must have a student enrolled in the District high school during the one-year visit.

The Board may terminate the approval of an international student program when it would be in the best interests of the District to do so.

### **Immigrant Students**

All school-aged immigrant children who have abandoned their residence in a foreign country and established residence in the District will be admitted to the District's schools without payment of

tuition.

Ref: 22 CFR Part 62 (Exchange Visitor Program) §62.25 (Secondary School Students)  
8 CFR 214.2(j) (Special Requirements for Admission, Extension and Maintenance of  
Benefits for Exchange Aliens)  
Education Law §1709(13)  
Matter of Jones, 24 EDR 110 (1984)

*Adoption date: January 20, 2016*

*Revised date: May 22, 2019*