

FILE: JQK

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

International student exchange programs are welcomed by the Jefferson Davis Parish School Board. Prior to approval, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall review the program's qualifications to assure compliance with all state, federal, and School Board requirements. Students in a foreign exchange program shall be subject to the following:

1. All foreign exchange students shall be required to have a J-1 visa.
2. In order to receive grades, all high school students shall be in attendance a minimum of eighty (80) days per semester.
3. English is the primary instructional language of this parish; therefore students must have a working knowledge of the English language. Thus, foreign exchange students must make a score of 45 or above on the SLEP (Test of Secondary Level English Proficiency) test. The testing results should be sent with the student's transcript of grades from the student's country of origin to the high school the student anticipates attending.
4. A transcript of credits earned shall be provided when the student enrolls in school and the sponsoring organization shall provide a translation of the course descriptions so that credits can be determined by school authorities. An official transcript should also be sent from the last school attended by the exchange student.
5. Foreign exchange students shall be restricted to those entering their junior or senior year. No student that has graduated from a high school shall be admitted to a parish school.
6. Graduation from high school shall be dependent upon transfer of credits and the student meeting at a minimum the requirements mandated by the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)) as outlined in the *Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*, Bulletin 741. Students not meeting this requirement shall not participate in the graduation ceremony.
7. Any other extenuating circumstances shall require the approval of the building principal whose decision shall be subject to review by the Superintendent.
8. One percent (any fraction would be rounded to the next whole number) of the total student population in grades 9-12 may be foreign exchange students in any given school.

Revised: February, 2000

Revised: October 15, 2009

Revised: April 15, 2021

Ref: [22 CFR Part 62](#) (*Exchange Visitor Program*)

La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §[17:81](#)

[Council on Standards for International Education Travel](#)

Board minutes, 7-14-94, 8-19-94, [10-15-09](#), [4-15-21](#)

Jefferson Davis Parish School Board