



# Washington Interscholastic Activities Association 2023-24 International/Cultural Exchange Students Entering the United States

## SUBMIT FORM TO YOUR WIAA DISTRICT ELIGIBILITY CHAIRPERSON

A student coming to this country for a one (1) year International/cultural exchange student is eligible at the varsity level for one (1) year only in the school in which he/she has been placed, provided all other rules of eligibility have been met and the student has not graduated from the high school equivalent in his/her home country. F-1 Visa students remaining for more than one (1) year will be considered transfer students. Graduated students can not compete interscholastically at any level (i.e., varsity or sub-varsity). This rule may not be appealed (WIAA Rule 18.12.4B).

**A student coming to this country for a one (1) year international exchange student is eligible in the school ONLY if:**

**YES NO:**

- Is the international exchange student attending school in the attendance boundary where the host family resides?
- Does the international exchange student's age satisfy the WIAA limits? (18.5.0)
- Excluding kindergarten, has the international exchange student completed eleven or fewer years of education? (Rule 18.12.4B)
- Is this the first time the international exchange student has attended high school in the United States?
- Is it an accurate statement that no person affiliated with the school had any input on the placement of the international/cultural exchange student at the school?
- Is it accurate that the foreign student's host family does not include a member (paid, volunteer or booster) of the school's athletic coaching/administration staff?

***If you have answered "NO" to any of the above questions, the foreign student is ineligible and will need to appeal for athletic eligibility.***

\_\_\_\_\_ is an international exchange student for non-athletic reasons. As a condition of eligibility, I understand that the residence/transfer rule shall be waived for only one (1) year at the first school that I attend. Should I remain in this country longer, I will be considered a transferring student eligible at the junior varsity level for a one-year period of time.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of International/ Cultural Exchange Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of International/Cultural Exchange Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date                      Country of Origin

\_\_\_\_\_  
International/Cultural Exchange Agency

\_\_\_\_\_  
Duration of Stay

\_\_\_\_\_  
Host High School                      Grade Level

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Administrator/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Host Family

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of School Administrator                      Date

## **Guidelines for Establishing International/Cultural Exchange Student**

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1. International/cultural exchange student must meet the same academic athletic eligibility requirement as all other students participating at that school.
2. After entering or being eligible to enter the ninth grade, a student shall have four (4) consecutive years of interscholastic eligibility.
3. In no case will eligibility be extended beyond the four (4) consecutive years. WIAA 18.14.3. states: "There can be no evidence that either the student transferred for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics or transferred as a result of having been recruited for the purpose of participating in interscholastic athletics."
4. An international/cultural exchange student coming to this country for a one (1) year is eligible at the varsity level for one (1) year only in the school in which he/she has been placed, provided all other rules of eligibility have been met and the student has not graduated from the high school equivalent in his/her home country.
5. An international/cultural exchange student who represents a school in an interscholastic sport must be an amateur in that sport. An amateur student-athlete is one who engages in athletics for the physical, mental, social and educational benefits, and to whom athletics is an avocation and not a source of financial reward.