

ADMISSION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

The Thompson School District recognizes the educational and cultural value of international student exchange programs for both district and foreign students. Because of the benefits of this cultural exchange, the district is willing to enroll a limited number of foreign exchange students to the regular educational programs offered in the schools.

To protect the interests of the district, its schools and its students, enrollment of foreign students in district schools is restricted to students from approved student exchange programs.

Foreign exchange students sponsored by an approved program (J-1 visa)

Foreign students on an approved exchange program (with a J-1 visa) do not have to pay tuition. They may not graduate from or receive a diploma from a district high school.

Foreign exchange students privately sponsored (F-1 visa)

The Thompson School District will only accept F-1 visa students if the District is certified by the U.S. Student and Exchange Visitor Program and at least one District staff member is certified to be the I-17B point person.

Privately sponsored foreign exchange students may be enrolled if an adult resident of the district has been given temporary guardianship and the student lives in the home of that guardian and if the student meets all legal requirements for a student visa.

Foreign students on an F-1 visa shall only attend secondary schools within the district and are required by law to pay the district for the full, unsubsidized per capita cost to the district for providing education to the student for the period of his or her attendance. The period of attendance may not exceed 12 months.

This policy and the accompanying regulation do not apply to resident aliens, political exiles or students from other countries residing within the district with their parents or legal guardians. Students in the United States on a visitor visa are not entitled to enroll in the Thompson schools.

Revised

Adopted prior to 1985

Revised May 16, 1990

Revised July 8, 1998

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Revised June 17, 2020

Legal ref: 8 U.S.C. 1184 (admission of nonimmigrant students)
8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)(I) ((definition of nonimmigrant student) 2 C.F.R. 62.25 (eligibility for and administration of foreign exchange secondary student visitor programs)