

International Exchange Student Guidelines

The faculty of Cabot High School supports the school's foreign exchange program. This type of program can be a learning experience for our students as well as the foreign exchange students. It is our belief that the foreign exchange system should be designed for the following purposes:

- To strengthen ties between the United States and other participating countries
- To develop long-term relationships between the countries and participants
- To expand awareness of other cultures, and to involve the entire community with the exchange program

Because of these beliefs, we have adopted the following guidelines:

1. Foreign exchange students must meet requirements established for English proficiency. Foreign exchange students must have sufficient background in English to be successful. **FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS WITHOUT THIS BACKGROUND WILL NOT BE APPROVED FOR THE CHS FOREIGN EXCHANGE PROGRAM.**
2. Approved foreign exchange students will be placed in courses according to their ages as follows: 17-18 as a senior; 16-17 as a junior. Students under 16 will not be allowed to attend Cabot High School. The student must not have turned 19 years of age before August 15 of the year in which they enroll at CHS.
3. Foreign exchange students will be expected to enroll in six (6) academic classes while attending CHS. These must include an English class, an American government class, and one semester of health. Foreign exchange students are encouraged to participate in at least one extracurricular activity and are expected to complete all classroom assignments, tests and projects.
4. Foreign exchange students must have achieved a least a 2.0 GPA after the first semester to remain at CHS for a second semester.
5. Students attending CHS on an F-1 visa that meet all graduation requirements set forth by the district and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education will be eligible to receive a diploma.
6. For students participating with a J-1 visa, the district will provide the foreign exchange student with a grade transcript reflecting only work completed at CHS and only during the period of attendance at CHS. The transcript will denote a cultural learning experience, but not a fulfillment of the requirement of an Arkansas resident diploma.
7. The district will not include names of foreign exchange students in the formal class rank listing based on cumulative GPA.
8. Foreign exchange students participating with a J-1 visa will not receive an official diploma. These students will be introduced as special guests at graduation and will receive an honorary diploma. The foreign exchange student must live with a host family who resides in the Cabot School District.
9. Application and required paperwork for each foreign exchange student must be received in the CHS Student Success Center by July 1 of the school year for which the student is applying, or the student will not be placed.
10. All foreign exchange students must have either an F-1 or J-1 visa.
11. If applicable, the sponsoring program must be represented by an advisor who will be available to meet with school officials and host parents in a personal conference at the school to discuss the progress of the student. The advisor must also be available to CHS staff in case a problem should arise.
12. The sponsoring organization must be certified by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET) and must be registered with the Arkansas Secretary of State as an International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration (ISEVPO).
13. The foreign exchange student must have achieved above average academic progress in his/her country. A grade transcript, translated into English and Carnegie units of credit,

must be approved by the CHS principal's office for screening no later than July 1 of the year in which the student is applying for acceptance into the exchange program. Transcripts will be used for verification of the academic requirement and to determine student placement at time of enrollment.

14. The foreign exchange student must provide a copy of his/her health record translated into English.
15. The district will notify the foreign exchange student and his/her program in writing of the student's admittance or rejection no later than July 15 of the year in which the student is applying for acceptance. The principal and foreign exchange selection committee is responsible for administration of the CHS foreign exchange program and will make the final selection of students in the program.
16. Foreign exchange students are expected to pay all fees and related school expenses that are expected of other resident students enrolled at CHS.
17. The district will provide foreign exchange students with super booster passes to all home athletic events to encourage their attendance at school activities.