

U-46 Foreign Exchange Student Information

School District U-46 accepts foreign exchange students.

Requirements

Application: A foreign exchange student must apply through an accredited educational exchange program such as AFS Intercultural Programs and Youth for Understanding. Students in these legal programs are vetted, have transcripts, health records, and family approval.

Communication: All application and final outcome communication regarding foreign exchange students occurs through the accredited educational exchange program only. U-46 does not accept requests for a foreign exchange student from family or community members (see application information).

Host Family: Must live within the U-46 boundaries

Approval: The principal or their designee reviews the foreign exchange student application from the accredited educational exchange program. If the student meets the academic, health, and other requirements and there is room in the high school, the student can be approved as a foreign exchange student for the upcoming school year. The principal must give the final approval to the accredited program.

Deadline: June 1st for the upcoming school year. September 1st for second semester.

Note: School District U-46 does NOT accept students on I-20 or F-1 visas. The District is **not SEVIS-certified or an approved district to issue a Form I-20 for students**. If the Exchange Program needs the district to certify their I-20 form, we cannot accept that student. .

U-46 School Board Policies on Foreign exchange students is listed under Residency 7.039
"The Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent/designee is authorized to enter into written agreements with cultural exchange organizations and eleemosynary institutions to provide for the tuition-free attendance by foreign exchange students and non-resident pupils of eleemosynary institutions."

Foreign exchange students can participate in clubs, activities and athletics following all IHSA guidelines.