

QUESTION:	May a student continue to participate in athletics at a school after the parents have moved to another city?
ANSWER:	The student may continue in the first school of legal enrollment and be eligible even though the parents or guardians change residence.
QUESTION:	Are there any attendance areas or districts for private or parochial schools?
ANSWER:	The CIF Southern Section has prescribed no attendance boundaries for private or parochial schools. A student graduating from the eighth grade or an elementary school or the ninth grade of a junior high school may enroll and be eligible in any private or parochial school in the Southern Section.
QUESTION:	Under what conditions may a student maintain his or her athletic eligibility when the student transfers from one parochial or private school to another (private or parochial school)?
ANSWER:	A student, not a full-time resident in a 24-hour boarding school, who transfers from a private or parochial school to another private or parochial school, will be eligible in the second school, only when the family has established a new valid residence change in another public attendance area different from the one than that of the first school.
QUESTION:	What is the eligibility status of a senior transferring under the provisions of Bylaw 207 when the school has no junior varsity team?
ANSWER:	Athletes transferring under the provisions of Bylaw 207 will not be granted varsity eligibility, even though the school does not field a junior varsity team.
QUESTION:	What constitutes a change of residence as far as the CIF Southern Section transfer rule is concerned?
ANSWER:	The parents, court appointed legal guardian and sibling(s) of a student with whom he/she is residing must change their actual residence from one high school attendance area to another high school attendance area, if the student is to transfer from one school to another and be immediately eligible. Please note: In doing so, the parents, court appointed legal guardian and sibling(s) may not maintain two residences for purpose of establishing eligibility.

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## 208. FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS

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A foreign exchange student is a transfer student from one (1) school to another without a valid change of residence (See Bylaw 206.C.) under the auspices of a CIF-approved foreign exchange program.

- A. Students Transferring to a CIF Member School Under the Auspices of a CIF-Approved Foreign Exchange Program**  
Foreign Exchange students transferring under the auspices of a CIF-approved foreign exchange program from a school located outside the United States, a U.S. Military Base, a U.S. Territory or Canada to a CIF member school may be granted unlimited residential eligibility for all CIF athletic competition if all of the following conditions apply:
- (1) Such student must be under the auspices of, and be placed with a host family in the United States by a foreign exchange program that meets all the requirements listed below:**
- The program has been accepted for listing by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET); AND**
- The program has submitted a signed CIF Foreign Exchange Program Approval Request Form:**
- a. Stating that their placement procedures for foreign exchange students are purely random with respect to athletic participation and school placement; AND
  - b. Stating that there shall be no school, coach, community, relative or friend contact related to athletics regarding the enrollment of any student in a particular school; AND
  - c. Has been approved by the CIF; AND
  - d. The program has been recognized by the U.S. State Department and the California Office of the Attorney General, and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET); AND
  - e. Any CIF-approved foreign exchange program that fails to fulfill the CIF conditions for exempt status shall be subject to immediate suspension of its exempt status and subject to permanent loss of its exempt status after due process has been fulfilled. All approved programs will be posted on the CIF website ([www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org))

**NOTE:** Only foreign exchange programs registered with the California Office of the Attorney General and the U.S. State Department may place foreign exchange students in a California School (Government Code Section 12620 et seq.). The CIF-approved list of programs posted on the CIF website, reflects the programs approved by CIF that are also registered with the California Office of the Attorney General, the U.S. State Department, and the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). No other exchange programs will be recognized by the CIF as approved exchange programs for 2024-25.

- (2) A foreign exchange student shall have been placed with a host family in compliance with this Bylaw and Bylaw 510 (Undue Influence). Such student will have the choice of attending:
- a. The public school in the host family's public school attendance area; OR
  - b. A private school located in the host family's public school attendance area; OR
  - c. To gain residential eligibility at any other school, the student must receive written approval from both the principal of the public school located in the host family's attendance area and the principal of the other school; OR
  - d. In the event of a change of placement by the CIF-Approved Foreign Exchange Program, a different public school or private school with written approval from the principal of the new school. (See host family requirements in (2) a. and b. above)

**NOTE:** A foreign exchange student is considered to be placed with a host family when written notice of placement is provided by the exchange organization to the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver, and to the host family;

- (3) Neither the school the foreign exchange student attends, nor any person associated with the school, shall have input into the selection of the foreign exchange student; AND
- (4) No foreign exchange student may play varsity sports if any member of the host family is a coach, paid or volunteer, at the school of attendance; AND  
(Revised April 2018 Federated Council)
- (5) A foreign exchange student involved in an approved foreign exchange program where placement is not in accordance with CIF conditions for exempt status is subject to loss of his/her residential eligibility (waiver of the transfer rule); AND
- (6) A foreign exchange student must possess a current visa, issued by the U.S. State Department; AND
- (7) A foreign exchange student must comply with all eligibility requirements set forth by the CIF and the Section having jurisdiction; AND
- (8) A foreign exchange student who graduated from high school is ineligible to participate in CIF competition, unless the educational program in the student's country completes high school (graduation) after the student's 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> year of regular schooling (not including pre-school or kindergarten classes), in which case the student may have CIF athletic eligibility through the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of regular school attendance after initially enrolling in the first grade (not pre-school or kindergarten classes); AND
- (9) A foreign exchange student who changes from a J-1 visa to any other type of visa that requires them to change schools, are subject to Bylaw 207.B.(5)a. and c. and cannot be made eligible for Bylaw 207.B.(5)b. (Sit Out Period) since this would constitute their second transfer; AND
- (10) A foreign exchange student participating in a CIF-approved foreign exchange program must comply with the maximum of eight (8) consecutive semesters Bylaw. A foreign exchange student who is not in compliance with the eight (8) consecutive semesters Bylaw may apply for a waiver under the Bylaws established by the CIF and the respective Section of the student's current CIF school; AND
- (11) A foreign exchange student must be eligible under all other State and Section Bylaws; AND
- (12) All foreign exchange students in CIF-approved foreign exchange programs shall submit the appropriate waiver application(s) as required by their respective Section under Bylaw 208 with a CIF Pre-Enrollment Contact Affidavit [CIF Form - (please use local CIF Section Form)] signed by the student and a host parent (part 1), and the enrolling school official(s) (part 3). Foreign students in CIF-approved foreign exchange programs need not obtain signatures of officials from their former school; AND

- (13) A foreign exchange student who participates in an interscholastic athletic contest or is enrolled in and/or attended a class shall be considered to have been enrolled in that school and shall be classified as a transfer student if the student subsequently enrolls at another school.  
(Revised April 2016 Federated Council)

**B. CIF Students Transferring Back to a CIF Member School From Study Abroad**

A CIF student who, after being enrolled in a CIF member school (referred to as School A), to a school located outside the United States, a U.S. Territory, a U.S. Military Base or Canada (to be referred to as School B) and who, following completion of the study abroad, transfers back to school A, may be granted unlimited residential eligibility for all CIF athletic competition when the following conditions are met:

- (1) The student is returning to the same CIF member school in which they were enrolled immediately prior to their enrollment in the foreign school; AND
- (2) There is no evidence that the transfer to or from the foreign country was athletically motivated (see also Bylaw 510); AND
- (3) There is no evidence of the use of undue influence (recruiting) by anyone associated with either school; AND
- (4) The CIF student is in compliance with all eligibility requirements set forth by the CIF and the Section having jurisdiction; AND
- (5) The CIF student must comply with the maximum of eight (8) consecutive semester Bylaw. If a student has exceeded eight (8) consecutive semesters of attendance upon return from the study abroad, they may apply for a waiver under the Bylaws established by the CIF and the respective Section of the student's CIF member school. All CIF students returning from the study abroad shall submit the appropriate waiver application(s) for approval as required by their respective Section.

NOTE: This study abroad provision may be used only one time, for up to two consecutive semesters, during a CIF student's eight (8) consecutive semesters in high school.

(Revised May 2020 Federated Council)

**C. Appeals**

Appeals of eligibility involving foreign exchange transfer students from a foreign country must be in accordance with all relevant provisions of the CIF appeal process as set forth in Bylaw 1100.

(Note: A student who has graduated from the equivalent of high school and is now in the United States under a foreign exchange program would not be eligible.)

SPECIAL NOTE: THE CRITERIA USED FOR APPROVING FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENTS IS RANDOM HOME PLACEMENT OF THE STUDENT PRIOR TO THEIR LEAVING FROM THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. ALL 510 RULES APPLY.

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**209. DISCIPLINE, EXPULSION AND TRANSFER FOR DISCIPLINARY REASONS**

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**A. Expulsion**

A student who is expelled by a public school district in the State of California pursuant to the provisions of Education Code Section 48900 et seq., or from a public school from any other State, or any private or parochial school or district, shall be ineligible to practice or compete with any CIF team or individual sport program that is under the jurisdiction of the CIF for the period of the expulsion.

**B. Suspended Expulsion**

A student who has been expelled and has the expulsion suspended by the school board or board of directors and remains at his/her current school may be eligible so long as all other CIF State and CIF Section requirements are met. The conditions under which this student may be eligible will be determined by the local school board or board of directors. If the student is deemed eligible to participate, the conditions of his/her eligibility must be sent to the appropriate CIF Section office.

**C. Disciplinary Transfer**

- (1) If a student transfers from any public or private school when a disciplinary action is in place or pending, that student shall be ineligible for competition in all sports for one (1) year from the date of the transfer to the new school.  
(Revised May 2020 Federated Council)