

- Procedure Number: 660
  - Procedure Name: International Education
  - Date of Original: 2001 06 13
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**International Education****1. Administration**

All non-Canadian students new to the district must register with the District International Education Coordinator. This does not apply to new kindergarten students who have siblings already registered in the district. Administrative Officers may register non-Canadian students new to the district upon presentation of a letter of acceptance from the District International Education Coordinator.

All programs associated with International Education that use school facilities or expect access to the schools and programs in the district must be coordinated through the District's Gulf Islands International Education Program. All fees will be collected and administered by the district.

**2. Admissions**

Canada Immigration and Citizenship requires that all students enrolling in school programs must have a student authorization visa before entering Canada. The only exception is for students who have enrolled in a private language school for a period of less than three months. It is important to note that any district that accepts students without proper authorization will be held accountable to Canada Immigration and Citizenship and may have their right to conduct an International Education Program denied (no student authorization forms will be approved for that district).

**3. Program Fees**

Established on an annual basis reported to the Board by the Superintendent.

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## **APPENDIX A - International Education, Policy 660**

The *School Act* states (Section 82):

- (1) A Board must provide free of charge to every student of school age resident in its school district and enrolled in an educational program in a school,
  - a. instruction in an educational program sufficient to meet the general requirements for graduation...
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a student is resident in a school district if the student is ordinarily resident in the school district and the guardian of the person of the student is ordinarily resident in British Columbia.

Ministry of Education funding policy, POLICY CIRCULAR NUMBER 97-06, August 28, 1997, states:

### **Funding for International Students**

For the purposes of identifying students as off-shore students on the Student Data Collection Form (Form 1701), school districts must apply the following rules:

1. Generally, all international students who have Canadian Immigration and Citizenship student authorizations are considered to be off-shore students. Provincial education funding will not be available for these students.
  2. Exceptions are listed below. Provincial education funding will be provided for these international students even though they have student authorizations.
    - a. An international student who:
      - is a refugee claimant, or whose claim is in process and can substantiate this with a "letter of no objection";
      - has been determined to be a Convention Refugee;
      - has been admitted to Canada under a federal Minister's Permit; or,
    - b. An international student whose parent(s):
      - has been admitted to Canada for permanent residence (i.e. landed immigrant), or has applied for permanent residence and can substantiate this with a "letter of approval in principle";
      - has been admitted for temporary residence in Canada for a term greater than two years
      - (e.g. on a student authorization or employment authorization);
      - has been admitted under a teacher exchange program;
      - is carrying out official duties as a diplomatic or consular official and is able to substantiate this with a Foreign Representative Acceptance Counterfoil in the parent's passport; or
    - c. An international student who is attending school on a reciprocal and equal exchange. This exchange must be one in/one out of the same district for the same length of time, with the exchange completed within two years.
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3. If funding is requested for international students who do not fall into one of the exemptions, school districts should contact the Director of School Finance and Data Management.

**International Students without Student Authorizations**

1. International students without student authorization (i.e. possessing visitor's visas) who wish to enroll, or are enrolled, in a school district should be referred to Canada Immigration and Citizenship.
2. These students are not eligible for provincial funding. If a school district has claimed the student for funding purposes, the district must reimburse the Ministry.

**International Students Living without Parental, Guardian or Adult Supervision**

1. Schools need to be vigilant with regards to the welfare of international students, especially in the case where students are living without parental or guardian or adult care and supervision.
2. Any person who has reason to believe that any child (under the age of 19) has been, or is likely to be:
  - physically harmed,
  - sexually exploited or abused,
  - neglected,
  - emotionally harmed, or
  - deprived of necessary health care or medical treatment

is legally responsible under the Child, Family and Community Services Act to report the matter to the Ministry for Children and Families. Section 13 of the Act enumerates all instances when protection is required. In addition, further information will be provided in the BC Handbook for Action on Child Abuse and Neglect, which was released in the fall of 1997.

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