



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Doug Ute, Executive Director

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING BYLAW 4-8-1 EXCEPTION 3 F-1 VISA STUDENT REQUEST- 2025-26

In the summer of 2017, Ohio's General Assembly created a provision to permit international students, who are being housed on the campus of a member school that has boarded students prior to 2014 and continues to provide housing on campus, to have an athletic participation opportunity provided they are here on an F1 visa and meet all other eligibility standards. On July 17, 2019, the Governor signed into law a provision further extending participation opportunities for these students which allows those international students here on an F1 visa to participate at any Ohio member school. Exception 3 to Bylaw 4-8-1 documents this new law.

The purpose of this form is to ensure that the international student is compliant with all aspects of Bylaw 4. It is the expectation of the OHSAA that all students covered by this bylaw exception be vetted by a thorough review of the international student's academic records and educational history. **No** student, who would be considered a "graduate" in his or her home country, will be permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics at a member school pursuant to Bylaw 4-3-7. In addition, the OHSAA will review how the student has come to the United States and been enrolled in the member school in terms of the recruiting section, Bylaw 4-9. To that end, we will require the submission of the student's properly completed I-20 form, and, in some cases, may require the student and a school representative to engage in an interview with the compliance staff prior to any approval.

To be completed by the SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/DESIGNEE (not the host parent):

1. Name of Member School: _____
2. Address/City/Zip: _____
3. Name of Student: _____
4. Student's Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____
5. Date First Enrolled at Member School: _____ Grade Level for Current School Year: _____
6. School Attended Prior to Transferring: _____ Location (Country/State) _____
7. Student's Home Country: _____
8. Have you verified that the student possesses an F-1 Visa? YES NO
(Circle)
9. Is the student is being housed on campus? YES NO
(Circle)
10. If not residing in a campus dormitory, with whom is the student residing?
Name and relationship to the student _____
Address _____
Phone and Email Address _____
11. Including this current student, how many F1 visa students are residing at this same residence/host family? _____
12. Has student previously graduated from his/her home **high school**? YES NO
(Refer to Bylaw 4-3-7, OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws for further clarification) (Circle)
13. Has student previously completed eight semesters of **high school**? YES NO
(Refer to Bylaw 4-3-3, OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws for further clarification) (Circle)
14. Is student scholastically eligible? For initial eligibility (e.g. fall) you will need to be provided an English translation of the student's "home" high school transcript, and, upon request, provide the transcript to this office. YES NO
(Circle)

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PAGE 2: BYLAW 4-8-1 EXCEPTION 1, F-1 VISA STUDENT REQUEST- 2025-26

Student Name: _____ Member School: _____

15. Please describe, to the best of your knowledge, how the student learned about your school and any outreach procedures that were used to secure the student's enrollment. Please also disclose any scholarship or housing aid the student is receiving and from what source(s) (use additional sheets of paper as necessary):

16. What sport(s) does the student desire to play? Please describe, to the best of your knowledge, their past experience (*i.e. school team, club team, never played, etc.*) in the sport.

17. **Please provide a copy of the student's properly completed I-20 Form.**

I hereby acknowledge that the responses on the above are accurate and correct, to the best of my knowledge.

Administrator Signature: _____ Title: _____

Print Name: _____ Email Address: _____

To be completed by the INTERNATIONAL STUDENT:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----------|
| 1. Are you considered a high school graduate in your home country? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 2. Have you completed what would be considered eight semesters of American high school as of the date of this request? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 3. Have you previously participated in an academic year or semester secondary student exchange program in the United States at a different high school ? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 4. Have you received money or remuneration for competing in the sport for which you are requesting eligibility? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 5. Have you ever been a member of a junior or senior national development team in any sport in your home country? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 6. Were you recruited to come to the United States and to this school for athletic purposes? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 7. Have you previously been contacted by a representative of an American University or College as it relates to the sport in which you are seeking participation? | YES | NO |
| | | (Circle) |
| 8. Please describe how you found out about the school you are attending. In addition, please disclose if you have had any contact with a school administrator, coach or community member representing the school prior to your enrollment. Be as detailed as possible (use additional sheets of paper as necessary): | | |

I hereby acknowledge that the responses on the above are accurate and correct, to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OHSAA OFFICE USE ONLY: Date of Decision - _____

☐ Approved by Executive Director's Office

☐ Denied by Executive Director's Office

For School Years: _____
