

NEWS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ELIGIBILITY AMENDMENTS

PHOENIX, AZ (October 19, 2011) – *At its AIA Executive Board meeting of Oct. 18, 2011, the Board addressed concerns related the displacement of Arizona students by students from foreign countries related to the interscholastic eligibility status of international students attending AIA member schools.*

The Board addressed the issue in an effort to preserve and promote interscholastic competitive opportunities for Arizona students and further the goals of competitive fairness and equity related to foreign exchange students and international students.

A foreign exchange student is a student that is in the U.S. under a J-1 Visa, and who is placed in a school by an educational exchange program approved by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). A foreign exchange student is eligible in the attendance zone of the home in which the student is placed, provided the foreign exchange student meets all other eligibility requirements. The foreign exchange student is eligible for a maximum of one school year.

An international student is a student who is in the U.S. under an F-1 Visa and who is attending an AIA member school. Except for the domicile requirement, an international student must meet all eligibility requirements of any regularly enrolled student and is eligible only for non-varsity level competition. At no time is an international student eligible for varsity level competition.

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