



MIKE MOSES
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY

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GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

March 4, 1997

**CENTRAL HEIGHTS I.S.D.
RT. 13 BOX 2390
NACOGDOCHES, TX 75961**

Dear Designated School Official:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of new legislation affecting your authority to issue I-20 documents to foreign students. The Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 (Act of 1996) signed into law on September 30, 1996 includes provisions affecting the issuance of F-1 student visas. This legislation became effective November 30, 1996. Recently, this office has discovered that many of the primary and secondary schools within the District are unaware of this new legislation. In order to correct this situation, this office is providing you with an overview of the new regulations as follows:

1. F-1 visas will no longer be issued for public elementary school studies or publicly funded adult education programs, regardless of ability to pay.
2. Students who apply to attend public secondary schools must now be able to pay the full, unsubsidized per capita cost of their education.
3. Before the F-1 visa can be issued for attendance at a public high school, students must show proof of tuition payment.
4. Students are limited to no more than 12 months of public high school in F-1 status.
5. Foreign high school students may not use the U.S. residence of a relative for the purpose of attending high school.

It should be noted that the provisions regarding attendance in public schools and high schools do not apply to students attending private schools, students in J-1 status, or students who are dependents of other categories of visa holders visiting the United States, such as E,H,L, or J visa holders.

We hope that this information is informative and useful. If you have any questions regarding the new legislation and its' impact on foreign students, please feel free to contact Lynn Phillips, the School Liaison Officer, or Kristi Barrows, our Public Affairs Specialist at (281)847-7949.

Sincerely,

**Richard B. Cravener
Acting District Director**

7964

3/20/97

205-0687

March 4 letter from INS -
Nacadoche -

List type of visas no longer to
be issued -

Not real clear - of will it
abort - foreign exchange student -

Don't explain what

Tanya Oubre - 462-9698
205-0687