EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Various work opportunities are open to you during and after your period of studies. Under certain conditions, it is possible to work on or off campus without a work permit during your period of studies. You can also obtain a work permit to do internships related to your field of study. Graduates can apply for a Post-Graduation Work Permit if they wish to work full time after completing their study program. Finally, a student’s spouse or common law partner can also apply for a work permit.

To take advantage of these options, you must hold a valid study permit and be registered full time in a vocational training, college or university program.

For more information on studying in Québec:
International section – Studying in Québec
international.gouv.qc.ca/study

10 STUDENTS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES DESCRIBE THEIR EXPERIENCE STUDYING IN QUÉBEC

Choosing a program of study and an educational institution
If you wish to study in Québec, you must prove that you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition fees and other costs connected with registration [related expenses, costs of teaching materials, student association fees, health and hospitalization insurance premiums], travel costs (round trip from your country of origin), the costs of settling in Québec for the first year; and subsistence costs for the duration of your stay. You must also be able to cover the costs of examinations related to an application for a Québec Certificate of Acceptance and a study permit.

Exemption from differential tuition fees
Exemptions from differential tuition fees are available to a limited number of students. In other words, they may be exempted from paying the additional tuition fees normally demanded of foreign students.

The Québec Merit Fellowship Program (MFP) for foreign students
The Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement supérieur offer scholarships to foreign students who have distinguished themselves through their academic achievements. To be eligible, you must be enrolled full time in a degree program offered by a Québec educational institution.

To learn more about these programs, go to www.education.gouv.qc.ca.

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH STUDYING IN QUÉBEC

In order to live and study in Québec, you must have a valid study permit and, if necessary, a Temporary Resident Visa. The procedure to be followed is described here:

1. Choice of a program of study and an educational institution

Choosing a program of study and an educational institution
Find out which programs of study are offered by contacting the educational institution of your choice or by getting in touch with the information centre of the Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement supérieur.

2. Admission

The best way to find out about admission requirements, processing times and application deadlines is to contact the educational institution directly. Applications for vocational training programs must be sent directly to the vocational training centre the applicant wishes to attend.

At the college level, the application must be sent to a regional admissions service or directly to the educational institution if it is not part of a regional admissions service. Applicants wishing to be admitted to a private college must contact the college directly.

3. Obtaining a Québec Acceptance Certificate (QAC) for studies from the Ministère de l’Immigration, de la Diversité et de l’Inclusion

As soon as you receive your letter of acceptance, apply to the Ministère de l’Immigration, de la Diversité et de l’Inclusion for a QAC for studies, if you plan to stay in Québec for over six months.

The requirement to obtain a QAC for studies generally applies to all foreign students at all levels of education, although some categories of students are not required to get one. To submit an application and consult the list of exemptions, go to: www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/qac-students-exemptions.

Obtaining a QAC for studies takes about four weeks, apart from postal delays. The certificate is valid for the duration of your studies up to a maximum of 49 months.

4. Obtaining a study permit from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

As in the case of the QAC for Studies, obtaining a permit to study in Canada is a requirement for all study programs lasting longer than six months. Some foreign students need to obtain a Temporary Resident Visa to enter Canada. This document and the study permit are issued at the same time by a local Government of Canada visa office.

Please contact your local Government of Canada visa office to obtain your study permit and, if necessary, a Temporary Resident Visa. The procedure to be followed is described here: www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/study.asp.

You are now ready to study in Québec!
Québec is the cradle of French language and culture in the Americas. It is also a major hub of the knowledge-based economy and international commerce. A cultural meeting ground, Québec offers a stimulating and safe environment. And its education system is one of the best in North America.

Take advantage of a lifestyle tailored to your needs by coming to study in Québec. You can, for example:
- study aeronautical engineering in the trendy and vibrant city of Montréal
- explore the forests around Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- learn marine science in Rimouski
- Québec offers vast natural spaces and an impressive range of activities.

Québec univ

each year, Québec welcomes about 40 000 international students from over 160 countries.

QUÉBEC EDUCATION SYSTEM

Québec’s education system includes preschool education, elementary and secondary school education, vocational training, preuniversity and technical training at the college level, and university education. The public education system in Québec is nondenominational. It is established along French and English language lines, according to the language of instruction in the school. Québec also has a network of private institutions offering government-approved programs of study.

Vocational training
This type of training is for young people and adults who wish to enter the labour market. It prepares them to carry out specialized technical occupations.

Offered at the secondary level through school boards and private schools, vocational training is designed for students who have successfully completed Secondary III or IV (ninth or tenth year of schooling). Vocational training programs lead to an Attestation of Vocational Specialization (AVS), a Diploma of Vocational Studies (DVS) or an Attestation of Vocational Specialization (AVS).

College education
College education, which is the first level of higher education, is available to students who have successfully completed their secondary studies. The colleges provide regular preuniversity training in two-year programs that lead to university studies, or in three-year technical training programs that prepare students to enter the labour market or to apply for university. Both paths lead to the Diploma of College Studies (DCS).

University education
University studies include bachelor’s degree programs (undergraduate studies) that run from three to four years, depending on the subject; master’s degree programs (graduate level) that last for one or two years; and PhD programs (graduate level) lasting three or more years. Most universities also offer short programs (certificates, specialized graduate studies degrees, etc.) that vary in length.

WHY STUDY IN QUÉBEC?

For an excellent education
- Québec has one of the highest undergraduate graduation rates.
- Québec’s educational institutions offer programs that are recognized around the world, and many of them are offered jointly by partnered institutions.
- Québec institutions of higher learning are equipped with ultramodern infrastructure (high-tech labs, computer labs, sports installations, auditoriums, etc.) regardless of their size and location.
- Québec has many acclaimed technology parks and prestigious research centres in leading sectors.
- Québec universities are members of large international networks and are continually embarking on new projects with foreign partners.
- Various vocational and technical training programs are offered year-round throughout Québec.

For the opportunity to study in French or English
- Québec’s secondary school, college and university systems include both English- and French-language institutions.

For the competitive fees
- Our tuition rates are some of the lowest in North America.
- The cost of living in Québec is among the lowest in Canada.

For the quality of life
- Québec offers vast natural spaces and an impressive range of activities.
- It is home to numerous lakes and rivers, an immense boreal forest, a fjord and a majestic river, as well as many national parks whose character changes along with the seasons.
- Québec is the quintessential outdoor destination, offering a full range of activities.
- The quality of Québec’s urban life is remarkable, a cross between the modernism of North American cities and the old-world charm of European destinations.

For the safe living conditions
- Québec is recognized as a just society that promotes respect and inclusiveness.
- The crime rate is one of the lowest in North America.

For the dynamic culture
- Québec is a testament to the richness and uniqueness of Francophone culture in North America.
- Québec society is diversified and open to the world.
- Many large-scale intercultural and international events take place over the course of the year. These events include festivals, carnivals, art shows and sporting events.

For the chance to settle permanently in Québec
- Provided certain conditions are met, foreign students who earn a degree from a Québec educational institution may become permanent residents of Canada in a relatively short time. This is made possible by the Programme de l’expérience québécoise (Québec experience program). For more information, go to www.immigration-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/csq-students.