Québec Perspective Scholarships

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. When will the Québec Perspective Scholarship Program come into effect?

The scholarship program will begin in the fall 2022 term. Full-time students who complete this term and meet the criteria of the program will be the first recipients.

2. What are the eligibility criteria for the scholarship program?

The student must meet the following criteria to be eligible for a scholarship:

▪ Have a permanent code

▪ Be a resident of Québec as defined in the Regulation respecting the definition of resident in Québec (c. I-13.3)

▪ Be pursuing full-time studies or be deemed full-time in accordance with the criteria of the scholarship program

▪ Be in a program leading to a diploma of college studies in a technical field or to a university degree that qualifies the graduate to work in an occupation prioritized by the Québec government as part of Opération main-d'œuvre

▪ Have completed a term of full-time studies according to the criteria below

For the purposes of administering the program at the college level, an eligible study term for a student in full-time studies is defined as follows:

▪ The student must have successfully completed activities related to a minimum of 180 periods of instruction in an eligible program.

▪ The student must have successfully completed activities related to a minimum of 165 periods of instruction in Discipline 109 in an eligible program.
At the college level, an eligible study term for a student deemed to be in full-time studies corresponds to the following:

- A student deemed to be in full-time studies, based on certain eligibility criteria, must have successfully completed activities related to a minimum of 90 periods of instruction in an eligible program.

For the purposes of administering the program at the university level, an eligible study term for a student in full-time studies is defined as follows:

- Undergraduate: The student must have earned a minimum of 12 credits in an eligible program.
- Master’s or doctoral: The student must have earned a minimum of 9 university credits in an eligible program.

At the university level, an eligible study term for a student deemed to be in full-time studies corresponds to the following:

- All degrees (undergraduate and graduate): The student deemed to be in full-time studies, based on certain eligibility criteria, must have earned a minimum of 6 credits in an eligible program.

Efforts are underway at the MES to establish guidelines for students who may be in exceptional situations.

3. **When should students submit their scholarship application for a completed full-time study term?**

Students should submit their application once it has been confirmed (as of January 2023) that they are eligible, based on their fall 2022 term.

4. **What is the procedure for submitting a scholarship application?**

Once it has been confirmed that a student is eligible for the fall 2022 term (as of January 2023), the student applies using an electronic form available online. Information regarding the application procedure will be provided on the website of the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur (MES) in the fall of 2022. The IT system for processing scholarship applications is under development.
5. **When and how will the scholarship be awarded?**

Scholarship payments will be made primarily through direct deposit following confirmation of the recipient’s completion of a term that is eligible for the scholarship program.

The first scholarships will be awarded in the winter of 2023 for the fall 2022 term.

6. **Will the scholarship be taxable?**

The amount awarded under the scholarship program is considered as income for tax purposes and must be reported. A tax slip will be provided for this purpose, but the amount will not be considered taxable by Revenu Québec.

7. **Why is my program of study not included in the list of eligible programs?**

When a program of study is not on the list of programs for which students can receive a Québec Perspective Scholarship, it means that this program does not lead to one of the occupations prioritized by the Québec government as part of Opération main-d’œuvre.

8. **How was the list of programs established?**

The MES based this list on the occupations prioritized by the Québec government as part of Opération main-d’œuvre, which was launched in the fall of 2021. These occupations were selected because of the impact of worker shortages on the provision of certain essential public services and on growth and development in several strategic sectors of the Québec economy.

More specifically, the analysis carried out by the MES, in collaboration with the ministries concerned, consisted in establishing a correlation between the targeted programs of study and the codes of the national classification of prioritized occupations.

9. **How was the list of occupations prioritized by Opération main-d'œuvre established?**

The list of occupations prioritized by the Québec government as part of Opération main-d'œuvre is largely based on employment diagnostic analyses carried out by the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale (MTESS). These diagnostic analyses are based on the current situation for a given occupation (e.g. number of vacancies and unemployed), the demand forecast in that occupation and the future supply of workers over the forecast period. Analysis takes into account projected economic and demographic growth (according to the Conference Board of Canada and the Institut de la statistique du Québec, respectively), the number of workers leaving the occupation, the number of graduates projected by the school system per program of study, the
number of immigrants arriving in Québec by occupation, workforce mobility between occupations, and interprovincial mobility.

These diagnostic analyses of the balance between workforce supply and demand by occupation were established for all regions of Québec in collaboration with the regional offices of Services Québec and the Commission des partenaires du marché du travail (CPMT). Consultation with the Conseil emploi métropole, the Commission de la construction du Québec, the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux, the Ministère de l'Éducation, the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur and the Ministère de la Famille allowed us to establish the most accurate portrait possible of the job market by occupation. The sectoral committees on labour that report to the CPMT were also consulted twice in the early stages, in order to provide information to sustain the exercise, and again when the MTESS carried out its diagnostic analyses, in order to obtain their comments.

Based on this information and in collaboration with the ministries involved, occupations from among those deemed to be experiencing workforce shortages over the forecast period have been prioritized because of the impact of these shortages on the provision of certain essential public services and on growth and development in several strategic sectors of the Québec economy.

10. What residence status must students have in order to be eligible?

Eligible candidates must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada or Indigenous persons living in Canada, and must have Québec resident status as defined in the Regulation respecting the definition of resident in Québec (c. I-13.3).

11. Are students in their second and third year of eligible programs also eligible for the scholarship?

All students who are enrolled in an eligible program will be eligible for the scholarship, based on the eligibility criteria, starting with the fall 2022 term.

12. Is it possible to make a retroactive application for scholarships in the event that the student started their program before the fall of 2022?

College and university study terms prior to the fall 2022 term are not eligible under the criteria of the Québec Perspective Scholarship Program.

Moreover, a formal application period will be set and must be respected for each eligible term.
13. Do students who receive a scholarship under this program remain eligible for the Loans and Bursaries Program of the MES?

For the purposes of the Loans and Bursaries Program, the student’s contribution accounts for 100% of the income from bursaries that exceed $7,500 per year, including the Québec Perspective Scholarship. As a result, if the amount of scholarship received is below the $7,500 threshold, it will not affect the financial assistance received.

14. Can the student’s income affect the amount of the scholarship?

The student’s income does not affect the amount of the scholarship. The scholarship is awarded provided that the student meets the eligibility criteria.

15. What happens if the student fails a course?

The student must have earned the minimum number of credits or terms equivalent to full-time studies or to part-time studies deemed to be full-time, as defined in the scholarship program criteria. In this respect, if they are enrolled in a greater number of credits or terms and have one or more failures, but the total sum of the credits or terms successfully completed is equivalent to the minimum required in terms of the scholarship program, they are considered eligible.

Despite a failure in a given term, the student may be eligible for the following term, if they meet the criteria of the scholarship program.

16. Do students continue to receive scholarships beyond the period required by their program of study?

A limit is established according to the program in which the student is enrolled. At the college level, the maximum period is six terms. At the undergraduate level, the maximum period is six or eight terms, depending on the total number of credits required by the programs of study concerned. At the master’s and doctoral levels, the maximum period is equivalent to the number of terms required by the institution for a student enrolled full-time in one of the programs concerned.
17. Can other scholarship programs be combined with the Québec Perspective Scholarship Program?

The Québec Perspective Scholarship cannot be combined with any other MES scholarship program with similar objectives.

The principles governing the rules as to which scholarship programs can and cannot be combined are as follows:

- Scholarship programs with the same goals cannot be combined; in this case, the option that provides more funds to the target group is selected.
- Scholarship programs that do not have the same goals can be combined.

As a result, some scholarship programs will be integrated into the Québec Perspective Scholarship Program, as they cannot be combined and are more advantageous, while others will be maintained and can be combined, to the greater benefit of the target group.

When the budget rules for institutions of higher education are adopted, more information will be provided on which scholarship programs can and cannot be combined.