

Québec Education Program Secondary Cycle Two

- General Education Path
- Applied General Education Path



Québec Education Program

Secondary Cycle Two

Mathematics, Science and Technology

- General Education Path
- Applied General Education Path

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To Secondary Cycle Two teachers:

I am pleased to present the Québec Education Program for Secondary Cycle Two. This program, which is in continuity with the Elementary and the Secondary Cycle One programs, sets out the learning appropriate for Cycle Two and, above all, introduces a diversity of learning paths for young people. It thus completes the curriculum for elementary and secondary education.

In a knowledge-based society such as ours, it is important for every Québec student to fully succeed in the learning path of his or her choice. In this context, the program is an essential framework that presents the aims and orientations that should guide your educational choices as well as those of all school staff members, governing board members and parents.

This program is the result of the joint efforts of more than 500 people associated with education, most of them teachers and specialists in different school subjects. During the validation and field-testing phases of the preliminary version, comments on the text were received from various partners of the MELs, including those in the university community. As well, the brief from the Comité-conseil des programmes d'études contributed greatly to the improvement of the document. This collaboration at each stage of the process has helped to make the program a valuable reference regarding the education needs of today's youth.

Please read this program carefully and study it in order to prepare for its implementation in secondary schools across Québec as of September 2007.

I know that I can count on your expertise and your cooperation with your cycle team and school team colleagues in order to ensure that all students receive guidance in fulfilling their hopes, pursuing excellence and looking forward to the future with confidence.

Thank you for your professional commitment to the young people of Québec.

Jean-Marc Fournier

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Marc Fournier', written in a cursive style.



Foreword

In a complex and changing social context, providing all students with the best possible education requires a constant readjustment of educational practices. This is a special challenge in Cycle Two of secondary school, when students are in the middle of adolescence, a time of transition marked by a more active quest for intellectual, emotional and social autonomy. At this time, when young people are on the threshold of adulthood and, subsequently, the working world, their relationship to knowledge changes.

In response to this situation, the Québec Education Program presents the main educational orientations that should guide school staff, as well as the learning considered essential for young people today.¹

Like the programs for elementary education and Secondary Cycle One, of which it is the logical continuation, the program for Secondary Cycle Two has four distinctive characteristics:

- It targets the development of competencies by students who are actively involved in the learning process.
- It integrates all the subjects into a coherent whole focused on the major issues of contemporary life.
- It explicitly targets cross-curricular learning, learning that transcends the boundaries between subjects.
- It calls on the professional expertise of school staff and allows for individual and collective choices.

1. The Québec Education Program presents the prescribed learning while allowing for the exercise of professional autonomy by school personnel. It was written for professional educators. The use of specialized terminology is therefore justified in order to provide the utmost precision and rigour.

In addition, it provides for the diversification of educational choices and the exploration of occupational fields by offering three paths:²

- a General Education Path
- an Applied General Education Path
- a Work-Oriented Training Path consisting of two learning options
 - prework training
 - training for a semiskilled trade

The first two paths lead to vocational training, college-level studies or university. The third one is offered in work-study programs and may lead directly to the job market; under some conditions, it may also lead to vocational training programs or continued studies in general education.

A set of electives and, in some cases, workplace practicums in different sectors of activity broaden the students' range of choices, and there are various bridges between the paths.

2. These paths, which are set out in the *Basic school regulation*, are presented in greater detail in sections 1.7 and 1.8.

Québec Education Program

Secondary Cycle Two

Note: This general Table of Contents is provisional. Some programs are missing; they are part of the third phase of writing of the Québec Education Program for Secondary Cycle Two. Please note that the pagination of the Québec Education Program is not continuous; each chapter or program is paginated separately.

Chapter 1 **A Curriculum for the 21st Century**

Chapter 2 **Broad Areas of Learning**

Chapter 3 **Cross-Curricular Competencies**

Chapter 4 **Subject Areas** (preliminary version)

Chapter 5 **Languages**

Secondary English Language Arts

Français langue seconde

– Programme de base

– Programme enrichi

Español, tercera lengua

Chapter 6 **Mathematics, Science and Technology**

Mathematics

Science and Technology

Applied Science and Technology

Environmental Science and Technology (to come)

Science and the Environment (to come)

Secondary V program (title and program to come)

Secondary V program (title and program to come)

Chapter 7 **Social Sciences** (text to come)

History and Citizenship Education

Contemporary Economic Environment (to come)

Chapter 8 **Arts Education**

Drama

Visual Arts

Dance

Music

Chapter 9 **Personal Development**

Physical Education and Health

Ethics and Religious Culture (to come)

Chapter 10 **Career Development**

Personal Orientation Project

Exploration of Vocational Training (to come)

Entrepreneurship (to come)

Chapter 11 **Integrative Project** (to come)

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