



EDUCATION IN QUEBEC

Canada is a big country divided into 10 different provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and three territories: Nunavut, Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Most of the provinces and territories use the same education system as other countries. There is elementary level (graduate after 6 years), secondary level (graduate after 6 or 7 years) and university level (graduate after 2 to 5 years depending of the field of study).

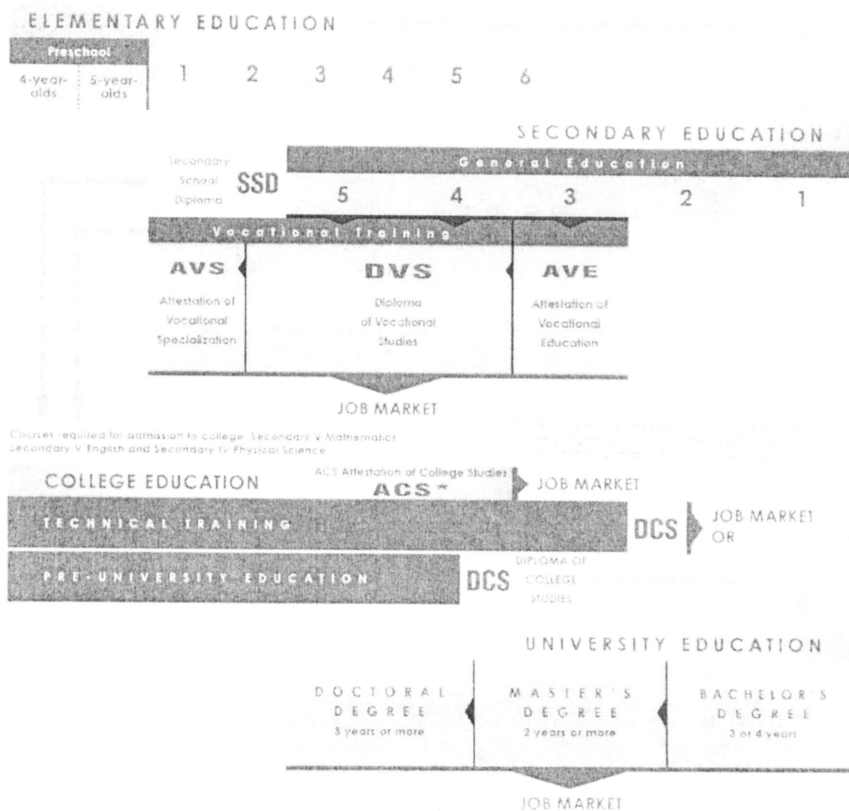
But in the province of Quebec it is different. After the elementary level (6 years, finishing at 12 years old) the students go to the secondary level (5 years, finishing at 16 or 17 years old), then they go to "Cegep" which is a post secondary college (2 to 3 years, finishing at around 20 years old) only after they have completed "Cegep" can they go to university.

Upon completion of the secondary level, the students obtain a high school diploma, but there are not many opportunities to obtain a good job with this level of education and there is no way to go to university with only this diploma. Most students will go to "Cegep" for 2 or 3 years (pre-university education).

To better understand the Quebec school system, please refer to the board below:

- Elementary Education: 5 years old to 12 years old
- Secondary Education: 12 years old to 17 years old
- College Education: 17 years old to 20 years old
- University Education: after 20 years old

Québec's Education System



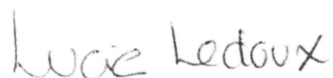
The students from the province of Quebec cannot take a year or a semester off during their current secondary education (from 12 to 17 years old). They have to do the 5 years, one after the other without interruption.

The years of college education or "Cegep" is where the students decide what they want to do for their future career. This is why, most of the time, the students take a year or a semester off, before or during, to think about their future plans and take the opportunity to learn about a new culture and a new language.

This document is only a very short resume of the document "Education in Quebec, an overview" made by the Ministry of Education in Quebec. The complete version can be found on this following website in different languages: http://www.mels.gouv.qc.ca/GR-PUB/m_englis.htm.

I thank you for your support and cooperation to accept our Canadian students in your school. Our Canadian students are very interested in your culture.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucie Ledoux".

Lucie Ledoux
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