

Merit Scholarships Competition

2026-2027



**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
CANDIDATES**

Contents

ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE CONTEST	2
VOCATIONAL TRAINING	3
THE CONTEST.....	6
REGISTRATION FOR THE CONTEST	7
Process	7
Eligibility	8
INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT	11
General	11
Identity documents	11
Application Form	11
Academic Documents.....	12
Language level.....	14
Awards and scholarships	16
SUBMISSION OF MY APPLICATION	17

ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE CONTEST

Who is responsible for the Merit Scholarships and Exemption from Supplementary Tuition Fee programs?

The **ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)** (Quebec's ministry of Education) provides financial support to international students in vocational training through its **Merit Scholarships and Exemption from Supplementary Tuition Fee programs**. It is responsible, among other things, for the **strategic and financial oversight of the Contest**. The Contest is governed by **ministerial program rules and approvals**, which form an integral part of its operation.

This ministry is more broadly responsible for **preschool, elementary, secondary, vocational, and adult education in Quebec**.

The administration of the Programs and the Contest has been entrusted to **Éducation internationale**, through its **Québec métiers d'avenir** service, under a professional services agreement. In this capacity, it is responsible for managing the Contest in all aspects related to:

- Promotion of the Contest;
- Application submission process;
- Selection of recipients;
- Support and guidance provided to recipients.

What is a vocational training centre in Quebec?

A **Vocational Training Centre (VTC)** (*Centre de formation professionnelle* or **CFP**) is a **public school** that provides vocational education, primarily focused on learning a practical trade or occupation.

The role of a VTC is to:

- Train skilled workers for the labor market;
- Provide hands-on training, including internships or workplace placements.

Upon successful completion of the program, the **ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)** awards the student a **Vocational Studies Diploma (VSD)** (*Diplôme d'études professionnelles* or **DEP**).

The terms **School Service Centre (SSC)** (*Centre de services scolaire* or **CSS**) and **School Board (SB)** (*Commission scolaire* or **CS**) are also frequently used. These SSCs and SBs are public administrative bodies that manage and support schools within a given territory, including vocational training centres.

As a result, a single SSC or SB may include:

- One or more vocational training centres (VTCs/CFPs);
- Elementary schools;

- Secondary schools.

What is Éducation internationale and its Québec métiers d'avenir service?

Éducation internationale is a **not-for-profit cooperative** that brings together Quebec's **French-language school service centres** and **English-language school boards**. Since 2001, Éducation internationale has united, supported, and represented these organizations with the goal of opening Quebec's school system to the international community.

Québec métiers d'avenir (QMA) is a **personalized support service** created by Éducation internationale for individuals who wish to pursue **vocational training** and experience a unique educational journey in Quebec.

The **ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)** mandates Éducation internationale to administer several programs, including this **Contest**.

 To learn more about the cooperative: <https://www.education-internationale.com/en/>

 To learn more about the support service: <https://www.quebecmetiersdavenir.com/en/>

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

What is vocational training?

Vocational training leads to the obtaining of a vocational studies diploma (VSD). These short-term training courses (1 to 2 years) focus on learning a trade and focus on teaching skills directly related to the job market.

For some VSDs, it is possible to improve by completing an attestation of vocational specialization (AVS) which lasts between 3 and 6 months.

These official diplomas are issued by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec.

Can I apply to the Contest to study at a CEGEP (technical college program) or at a university?

The Merit Scholarship and Tuition Fee Exemption programs offered by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) and administered by Québec métiers d'avenir is intended exclusively for vocational training. If you participate in this Contest, you will not be able to enroll in a CEGEP or a university through this program. Registration is for a vocational training program.

Please note, however, that the Merit Scholarship Program is also available for university studies and technical college studies.

If you are interested in:

 **University studies**, consult: [Merit scholarship program for foreign students \(PBEEE\) - Fonds de recherche du Québec - FRQ](#)

 **Technical college studies**, consult: [CEGEPs | International students](#)

Why a vocational training in Quebec?

Vocational training is recognized worldwide for the quality of its programs and its innovative teaching methods. In addition, Quebec training centres are equipped with ultramodern, cutting-edge equipment.

You can also work during your training in Canada.

Please note that eligibility for the Post-Graduation Work Permit is not guaranteed and depends on the program of study. It is possible that the program you have selected is not eligible for a Post-Graduation Work Permit.

 [Off-campus work](#)

What diploma do you get at the end of the training?

The training courses offered allow you to obtain a vocational studies diploma (VSD) issued by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec.

How long does training last?

The duration varies between 9 months and 2 years, depending on the training.

Do all centres offer the same quality of training?

Yes, all courses must offer the same content to students, regardless of the centre in which they are provided. In addition, the training centres, with which we collaborate, all offer ultramodern infrastructures and cutting-edge equipment to optimize learning.

What are the criteria for success in vocational training?

In vocational training, each skill is assessed individually. A success threshold is determined for each skill, for example 80 points out of 100. The words “Pass” or “Fail” appear on the learning record, whether the student achieves the success threshold or not.

The student is awarded points based on the determined assessment criteria, which will be shared with you by the teacher at the appropriate time.

If the student fails a skill, he or she can retake the exam. Normally, a student who fails a skill twice must retake the entire skill, including the courses. However, this may delay the students in their training.

Some skills have higher success thresholds, particularly in the health sector, where obtaining a perfect score is often required.

The skills to be achieved for each of the training courses are clearly listed on their personalized page [on the Québec métiers d'avenir website](#).

What is a “welcome service”?

Some training centres offer additional services within their establishment to ensure the proper reception of their international students. The welcome services vary according to the training centres. The services that can be offered are listed below:

- Integration into the living environment;
- Reception upon arrival;
- School integration;
- Integration for the family;
- General information and administrative follow-up;
- Support for finding housing.

What training courses are offered as part of the Merit Scholarship Contest?

Vocational training centres determine which training courses they wish to offer as part of the scholarship Contest. Most training courses are prioritized by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec. A ratio of 50% of prioritized training courses must be respected in the awarding of scholarships and tuition fee exemptions. The list of prioritized training courses can be found in Appendix 1 of the [Instruction Guide for Candidates](#).

Not all training courses on the list of prioritized training courses are available for registration in the Merit Scholarship Contest.

Registering for a non-prioritized training course does not prevent the possibility of selection as a recipient of a scholarship.

Does vocational training in Quebec provide access to a post-graduation work permit?

Access to a Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP) is not guaranteed and varies depending on the training program. It is possible that the program you choose may not be eligible for a post-graduation work permit.

👉 The Contest registration platform will indicate whether a program is eligible or not at the time you apply. Please note that program eligibility can change at any time. A program that is eligible today may no longer be eligible for a post-graduation work permit at the time of application and/or afterward, and vice versa.

🔗 Consult the list of CPE codes associated with each vocational training program on the Government of Quebec website (in French): [Tableau regroupant les programmes d'études de formation professionnelle](#)

🔗 Verify the eligibility of your desired program using the CPE code on the Government of Canada website: [Post-graduation work permit: Field of study requirement - Canada.ca](#)

THE CONTEST

How much does it cost to register for the scholarship Contest?

The Merit Scholarship Contest is **FREE**. If you are just starting to apply and a registration fee is required, you are in the wrong place. Redirect to the registration platform: 🔗 <https://bourses.boursesqma.com/en>

You are talking about prioritized regions and/or training courses, what are they?

The priority training and regions have been determined by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec, to ensure that recipients of a scholarship of excellence are selected for at least 50% of the regions and prioritized training. The list is available in Appendix 1 and 2 of the [Instruction Guide for Candidates](#).

Not all training courses in the list of prioritized training courses are available for registration in the Merit Scholarship Contest.

Not all regions of Quebec are represented in the scholarship Contest.

Registering in a non-prioritized training / region does not prevent the possibility of selection as a recipient of a scholarship.

I am registered in a cegep or university, do I have to cancel to register for the Contest?

If you are the recipient of a Merit scholarship, you will have to cancel your admission to the cegep or university to complete your training in a Vocational training centre. While waiting for the results, you can maintain your admission.

However, make sure that you are well informed about what vocational training is. Here is a brief description: "The entire training is devoted to learning the trade (there is no general training). The skills required to practice the trade are defined by the actors in the labor market. At the end of their studies, the student

therefore has the exact profile of skills required by companies, which promotes their hiring and integration into the labor market.”

We therefore invite you to become familiar with vocational training to ensure that it corresponds to your needs and objectives. Vocational training is not higher education as cegep or university.

REGISTRATION FOR THE CONTEST

Process

How do I register for the Contest?

1. Determine whether you are eligible for the Contest. Any application containing false information or misrepresentation will be automatically rejected from the Contest.

🔗 Consult the [Instruction Guide for Candidates](#) for more details on the eligibility criteria.

2. Register on the Contest platform: 🔗 <https://bourses.boursesqma.com/en>
3. Complete your profile. Carefully read the consent forms and declarations. The declarations correspond to the Contest eligibility criteria.
4. Select your training program and training centre from the list provided (only one choice is permitted) in the “Merit Scholarship Contest” section.
 - a. If you wish to change your training program selection, click the trash bin icon at the top of the tab and confirm. You may then restart your application with a different program selection.
5. Complete the mandatory sections using your supporting documents. No documents submitted by email will be accepted.

When does the Contest open and close?

The Contest will be open **from Wednesday, September 16th, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. (noon, Quebec time)** and will close on **Wednesday, October 28th, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. (Quebec time)**. Any document or information submitted after the deadline **will not be considered**.

Only **language test results** may be added to an application after submission, and only for applicants who have declared that they will be taking a recognized language test. These results must be submitted **no later than Friday, November 20th, 2026**.

 See the [Language Level](#) section for more details.

Duplicate complete applications will be rejected (that is, all complete applications submitted by the same person). If you have opened two applications and one remains incomplete, **your complete application will be retained**.

I started filling out my application file, but I would like to change my choice of program and/or training center. Is this possible?

Yes, it is possible to change your program choice and/or training center after making an initial selection. To do so, you must delete your first choice by clicking the **trash can icon**.

You will then be able to select a new option in the Merit Scholarship Contest section.

Please note: deleting your choice will also **remove all documents and information** that were submitted for that choice. When you select a new option, you will need to complete your application again and **resubmit** all required documents and information.

Can I add documents to my application after the application deadline has passed?

No. **No corrections or modifications are permitted once the Contest has closed.**

The only exception concerns **language test results** for applicants who have declared that they will be taking a recognized language test. These results may be submitted **until Friday, November 20th, 2026**.

 See the [Language Level](#) section for more details.

Eligibility

I will turn 18 this year. Can I still register?

No, you must be 18 years of age at the time of submitting your application.

Are dual nationals (French nationality + other) eligible?

Candidates with French nationality **cannot** participate in the Merit Scholarship Contest, since they already benefit from an exemption from tuition fees, thanks to the France-Quebec agreement. Canadian citizens are also **not eligible** to participate in the Contest.

Can I consider the project with my family?

Yes, your family can accompany you in the project. However, note that spouses are no longer eligible for the open work permit for accompanying persons, as of March 19, 2024. However, other options are possible, such as accompanying with visitor, worker or student status. Your children will also be able to attend daycare or school, depending on their age.

Evaluate the possibilities carefully before applying to the Contest. Indeed, the amount of scholarship will not be increased if you come as a family. In addition, for immigration procedures, you will have to prove greater financial capacity depending on your family situation.

You must also consider the family's settlement: daycare spaces are limited in Quebec and can sometimes be expensive (\$45-60 per day). Multi-bedroom accommodation can also be more difficult to find and more expensive. The vocational training centre cannot guarantee daycare space or housing. These elements must therefore be carefully considered, and a plan B must be considered, for example undertaking the project alone, until graduation.

Why are French nationals, Canadian nationals and those in the process of obtaining permanent residence not eligible for the Contest?

People who belong to these categories are already exempt from paying tuition fees. The Contest is intended for individuals who do not already benefit from this exemption.

In addition, Canadian citizens and permanent residents may be eligible for loans and bursaries from the Government of Quebec for full-time studies.

 [Loans and Bursaries for full-time studies | Gouvernement du Québec](#)

Why do I have to declare that I have the required financial capacity?

Financial capacity is **crucial to the success of your study project**. The immigration authorities of  [Quebec \(MIFI\)](#) and  [Canada \(IRCC\)](#) will review official proof of financial capacity when processing your immigration applications.

Declaring your financial capacity makes it possible to assess your ability to support yourself once you arrive in Quebec.

If you receive a **Merit Scholarship**, you must demonstrate that you have access to a **total of CAD 24,617 for one year of studies** to cover your living expenses. The Merit Scholarship may contribute a maximum of approximately **CAD 14,000 per year** toward this amount. Therefore, you must be able to provide the remaining **CAD 10,617** yourself.

If your application is **not selected for a Merit Scholarship** but you qualify for a **tuition fee exemption only**, a minimum financial capacity of **CAD 24,617** is required, since you must demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your living expenses without the benefit of the Merit Scholarship.

Depending on your family situation (for example, if your spouse and/or children will accompany you), you will need to demonstrate a **higher amount of financial capacity**. Failure to provide sufficient proof of funds during the immigration process could result in the **refusal of your study permit**.

For this reason, it is essential that you provide an **honest declaration** of your financial capacity when registering for the Contest, as inaccurate declarations may have significant consequences for your future applications (for example, a study permit refusal) if you claim financial resources that you do not actually possess.

If it is determined that you do not meet the financial capacity requirements, **your scholarship may be cancelled**.

In previous Contests, the financial capacity required to apply for the Merit Scholarship was CAD 3,000. Why do I now need to declare a minimum of CAD 10,617?

On **January 1, 2026**, the **ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration du Québec (MIFI)** significantly increased the amounts required for proof of financial capacity. These amounts must be demonstrated during your immigration procedures for studies, including both the **Québec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ)** and the **study permit**.

Here are the amounts, in Canadian dollars, that you must have available for your immigration procedures as of January 1, 2026:

Number of people	Amount of financial resources required to cover essential living expenses for one year.
1	CAD 24,617
2	CAD 34,814
3	CAD 42,638
4	CAD 49,234
5	CAD 55,045
6	CAD 60,299

There has been an increase of approximately **CAD 10,000 per year (for one adult)** compared with previous years. As a result, the required declaration of financial capacity had to be revised upward; otherwise, recipients of an Merit Scholarship could risk being unable to successfully complete their immigration procedures.

Please note that these amounts may increase further as of **January 1st, 2027**.

 [Costs related to studying in Québec | Gouvernement du Québec](#)

INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT

General

What does the “Display name” mean when I fill in my profile?

The display name is the name that will appear at the top of your application. This name is for your own use. The display name will not be seen by training centers during the next stages of your application.

Should documents be translated? If so, what languages are accepted?

Documents must be in French or English. If any of your documents are in another language, you must have them translated by a certified translator.

If you are selected as a recipient, the translated documents will be mandatory for your admission and for the continuation of your immigration procedures.

Identity documents

Vous devez déposer 2 documents :

1. Votre acte de naissance ;
2. La page d'identification de votre passeport valide ou votre carte nationale d'identité.

My passport has expired or is being renewed, can I still apply?

Yes, you can apply. If you are awarded the scholarship, we will recommend that you renew your passport, as a valid and up-to-date passport will be required for the immigration procedures.

Application Form

I do not have enough space to write everything I want in the application form sections. What should I do?

A **maximum number of characters** may be established for each section of the application form. If you exceed this limit, you will not be able to save that section. Therefore, you must stay within the maximum number of characters allowed.

A **minimum number of characters** may also be required in certain sections of the form. Any section that does not meet this minimum requirement cannot be saved.

I do not have any professional experience. Is this section of the application form mandatory?

This section is **optional**. If you do not have any professional experience, you may leave it blank.

If you have only **one professional experience**, complete only **one of the two fields**.

A maximum of **2 fields** is allowed, meaning you may enter a maximum of **2 professional experiences**.

I completed the application form in PDF format. Where can I upload it in my application?

This section is completed **entirely online**. **No other format is accepted**. If you complete a PDF document, you will **not** be able to upload it to your application file.

Each section of the application form must be completed **directly on the platform** in order to complete the application section.

I am unable to save the Application Form section. What should I do?

First, check whether an **error message** appears in one or more sections of the form.

Each section must be completed correctly and in accordance with the requirements. Some sections may require a **minimum and/or maximum number of characters**. If these requirements are not met, the section cannot be saved.

Academic Documents

Please upload your diplomas and academic transcripts in the corresponding categories. At least one category must be completed: general secondary education, vocational education, and/or higher education. It is not required to complete all three categories. Include only the levels you have successfully completed.

Each diploma and its corresponding academic transcripts must be combined into a single PDF file and uploaded under the appropriate category.

If you have not obtained any diploma, please upload only the academic transcripts that you possess.

Please indicate the document description (e.g., Secondary School Diploma) in the field provided.

What are the admission requirements for the study programs offered through the Contest?

Most programs require a minimum education level equivalent to **Secondary 4 in Quebec**. This level is often comparable to the successful completion of the **10th grade (or Seconde in the French system)**.

If you have completed only **Secondary 3**, you may be eligible for only certain programs. This level is often comparable to the successful completion of the **9th grade (or Third)** or, in some countries, the **First Cycle Studies Certificate (BEPC)**.

For the **2026-2027 Contest**, only the following programs are accessible to applicants whose highest education level is **Secondary 3**:

- Boucherie de détail ;
- Briquetage-maçonnerie ;
- Conduite de machines de traitement du minerai ;
- Extraction de minerai ;
- Fabrication de structures métalliques et de métaux ouvrés ;
- Pêche professionnelle ;
- Service de la restauration ;
- Soutien aux services d'assistance en établissement de santé et de services sociaux.

For programs offered in **English**, only **Masonry: Bricklaying** is available to applicants whose highest level of education is Secondary 3.

The program **Health, Assistance and Nursing** (and its French version, **Santé, assistance et Soins infirmiers**) requires a minimum education level equivalent to **Secondary 5 in Quebec** (often comparable to the successful completion of the final year of secondary school) to be eligible. For this program, your secondary education must also have been completed **in French or English**.

If you hold **post-secondary diplomas or higher education credentials**, you are generally eligible for all vocational training programs.

You will find the **academic prerequisites for each program** on the registration platform when making your program selection.

What types of academic documents are accepted?

You must provide your diplomas and the corresponding academic transcripts from your studies beginning at the secondary school level. Vocational training programs require a minimum educational level equivalent to Secondary 3, Secondary 4, or Secondary 5 in Quebec, which generally corresponds to the successful completion of 9th grade, 10th grade, or 11th grade in other education systems.

If you have academic documents from studies beyond the secondary level (for example, technical, college, or university studies), you may also submit the corresponding diplomas and transcripts in the appropriate categories.

If, at the time of submitting your application, you are currently completing a level of education, upload the academic transcripts that are available to you. You will not be able to add additional documents after the application submission period has ended. Therefore, priority will be given to the academic documents from previously completed levels of education, as well as any documents submitted for the level that is currently in progress but not yet completed.

What should I do if I no longer have my diplomas or academic transcripts?

You will need to request them from the schools or educational institutions you attended. Otherwise, the educational institution will not be able to assess your eligibility for the selected study program, and your application may be rejected from the Contest.

Do I need to have my original documents with me when I arrive in Canada?

Yes. Original academic documents are mandatory upon arrival, and you must have them in your possession. If you are awarded the scholarship, the vocational training centre will require you to provide your original documents as soon as you arrive. Failure to present your original documents upon arrival may delay your entry into the training program and could even result in a refusal of admission and the cancellation of the Merit Scholarship and/or the tuition fee exemption quota.

Language level

Is a French language test mandatory?

Yes, if the training is offered in French or if you are applying for the Health, Assistance and Nursing (English version) training. To prove your level of French, you must provide one of the following documents:

- A recognized French language test result (TFL, TFI, TEF, TEFAQ, TCF-France, TCF-Canada ou TCF-Québec) dated within the last 2 years, demonstrating a grade of B2 or higher for each of the 4 skills assessed;
- A higher education diploma and transcript issued by the Ministry of Higher Education of your country and/or a university, for a minimum of 3 years, completed entirely in French;
- A diploma issued by the Ministry of Education of France or French-speaking Belgium.

If I study in English, do I also need to prove my English level?

Yes, using one of the following documents:

- A recognized English language test result (TOEFL iBT, IELTS) taken within the last two years, demonstrating a grade of B2 or higher for each of the four skills assessed;
- A higher education diploma and transcript issued by your country's Ministry of Higher Education and/or a university, for a minimum of 3 years, completed entirely in English.

I live in a country where one of the official languages is English, I have spoken English since birth, do I have to take the test?

Yes. Proof of French proficiency is mandatory for all programs offered in French, as well as for the **Health, Assistance and Nursing** program offered in English.

If you wish to enroll in a program offered in English, you must also provide proof of your English proficiency.

I don't have time to take a language test before the registration period ends. What should I do?

Proof of French proficiency is required for all programs offered in French or for the **Health, Assistance and Nursing** program. Proof of English proficiency is required for all programs offered in English. If you do not have any of the required documents to demonstrate your French or English proficiency, you may declare that you have registered for a recognized language test.

The “**Language Level**” section will be considered complete once you declare that you are taking a language test. When all other sections of your application have been completed, you will then be able to submit your application for the competition.

However, the language test result must be uploaded to your application **no later than Friday, November 20th, 2026**.

Applications cannot be submitted without either an acceptable proof of French or English proficiency or a declaration that you are taking a recognized language test.

Any application that does not include proof of language proficiency by **Friday, November 20th, 2026**, will automatically be withdrawn, as it will be considered incomplete.

How do I upload my language test result to my application?

If you have not yet completed the **“Language Level”** section, you can simply upload your language test results to the appropriate location.

However, if you completed that section by declaring that you would be taking a language test, and all other sections of your application have been completed, you must first submit your application.

Once your application has been submitted (**before Wednesday, October 28th, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Quebec time**), you will have access to the **“Add My Language Test Result”** section.

Your test result must be submitted **no later than Friday, November 20th, 2026**. Any application that does not include proof of language proficiency after that date will be automatically withdrawn, as it will be considered incomplete.

Reference Section

*You may upload a maximum of **two different reference forms**.*

The form to be completed can be downloaded here:

 [ENG - Reference form](#)

 We highly recommend using the new referral form, which can be downloaded above.

Who can complete the reference forms?

The reference forms must be completed by people who know you in an **academic or professional setting**. These individuals are familiar with your qualities and are able to recommend your application for the Contest.

The **two forms must be completed by two different people**. They **cannot be members of your family or close friends**. If a family member or friend is also your employer, you must find another person to complete the reference form.

Awards and scholarships

Submit information regarding any awards or distinctions you have previously received.

Upload the documents related to those awards or distinctions.

A maximum of 2 awards and/or distinctions is permitted.

Is this section optional?

You must select one of the options in this section: either **“Add an Award or Distinction”** or **“No Award or Distinction to Add.”** Selecting one of these two options is mandatory to complete the section. Submitting an award or distinction is optional. Therefore, not having any awards or distinctions to add does not prevent you from submitting your application.

By selecting **“Add an Award or Distinction,”** you will be able to upload a copy of the award or distinction received, up to a maximum of **two documents**. Once one or two documents have been uploaded, the **“Awards and Distinctions”** section will be considered complete.

By selecting **“No Award or Distinction to Add,”** the **“Awards and Distinctions”** section will also be considered complete.

How is this section noted?

The scoring is as follows:

- No awards or distinctions: 0%
- One relevant award or distinction: 2.5%
- Two relevant awards or distinctions: 5%

SUBMISSION OF MY APPLICATION

I am unable to click the “Submit My Application” button. Why?

The **“Submit My Application”** button is available **only if all sections of your Contest application have been completed**. Review your application to ensure that every section has been properly completed.

It is also possible that you cannot click the button because **information is missing from your Profile**. For example, you may need to complete the **email address confirmation process**.

What happens after I submit my application?

Once your application has been submitted, you will receive a **confirmation email**. If necessary, please check your **junk or spam folder**.

After submission, **no changes can be made** to the application, except for information in your **profile**. For reasons of fairness, fraud prevention, and compliance with program timelines, you will **not be permitted to add, remove, or replace any document or any information already provided**.

Only applicants who have declared that they will be taking a language test may submit their results through the **“Add My Language Test Result”** section.

The result must be submitted **no later than Friday, November 20th, 2026**. Any application that does not include proof of language proficiency after that date will be **automatically withdrawn**, as it will be considered incomplete.  See the [Language Level](#) section for details.

Complete and compliant applications will then be forwarded to each **vocational training centre**, so that they can proceed with the **pre-selection of applications**.

When will I be notified if I have been pre-selected?

For the **2026-2027 Contest**, applicants are notified **only at the final selection stage**. **No communication will be made regarding the pre-selection of an application**.

When will I be notified if I am selected?

The **official announcement of recipients** is conducted in **two rounds**. Applicants selected in **Round 1** will be notified by email on **Monday, January 25th, 2027**.

From that date, they will have a **30-day period** (until **Wednesday, February 24th, 2027, inclusive**) to:

- **Confirm their acceptance of financial assistance** (scholarship and/or exemption);
- **Sign the required commitments;**
- **Finalize their support file with Québec métiers d'avenir.**

Detailed instructions regarding the steps to be completed and the required documents will be included in the announcement email.

Applicants selected in **Round 2** will be notified on **Monday, March 1st, 2027**. They must follow the same procedure and comply with the same **30-day deadline** (until **Wednesday, March 31st, 2027, inclusive**) to respond to the announcement.

Any selected applicant who does not comply with the procedure and/or the deadline will have their **scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption award cancelled**.

 See the “Announcement of Recipients” section of the [Instruction Guide for Candidates](#).

Will I be notified if I am not selected?

Yes. Applicants who are not selected at the conclusion of the Contest selection process will be notified **by email on March 1st, 2027.**

How are recipients determined?

After the application submission period closes, the **Vocational Training Centres** carry out the **pre-selection** of applicants who applied to their institution. They pre-select a maximum number of applications according to the established criteria, including verification of applicants' eligibility and the validity of the submitted documents.

 **Pre-selection is entirely the responsibility of the vocational training centres.** Neither the **ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ)** nor **Québec métiers d'avenir** intervenes at this stage.

 **For reasons of fairness, fraud prevention, and compliance with program timelines, it is not possible to add, remove, or replace any document or information once an application has been submitted, and this remains the case until the final announcement.**

All pre-selected applications are then submitted for the **final selection**. This stage is conducted by **Québec métiers d'avenir**, which decides on the awarding of recipients.

During the final selection, **artificial intelligence may be used to enable a qualitative assessment of applications.** Québec métiers d'avenir may also establish an **evaluation committee**, composed of designated individuals, responsible for reviewing and evaluating the pre-selected applications in accordance with the program standards and established criteria.

 **The results of both the pre-selection and the final selection are final. No decisions related to these stages may be appealed or contested.**

Recipients are first determined based on the **Merit Scholarship budget** allocated by the ministère de l'Éducation du Québec (MEQ) (**CAD 1,680,000 for the 2026-2027 Contest**). Once the scholarship budget has been fully allocated, a certain number of **tuition fee exemptions only** may be awarded to deserving applicants who have declared a **financial capacity of CAD 24,617 or more.**

What are the pre-selection and final selection criteria?

During both the **pre-selection stage conducted by the vocational training centres** and the **final selection stage conducted by Québec métiers d'avenir**, applications are scored using the same criteria:

- Motivations and interests: 30%
- Academic background: 30%
- Awards and distinctions: 5%

- References: 15%
- Overall quality of the application: 20%

AFTER THE SELECTION

What will happen if my application is selected?

If your application is selected, you will be required to:

- **Confirm your acceptance of financial assistance** (scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption);
- **Sign the required commitments;**
- **Finalize your support file with Québec métiers d'avenir.**

👉 **Any selected applicant who does not respond to the email, does not accept the financial assistance (Merit Scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption), does not sign the required commitments, and/or does not comply with the deadlines and procedures will have their financial assistance cancelled.**

The support file with **Québec métiers d'avenir** includes opening a file on the support platform and submitting the information and documents required to finalize the file.

Detailed instructions will be provided in the announcement email.

Once your acceptance has been confirmed, the **Québec métiers d'avenir team** will support you throughout the process to help ensure the success of your procedures, including **admission, immigration, and preparation for your arrival.**

First, the team will determine your training start date based on the availability of the selected program at the chosen vocational training centre and on immigration processing timelines. The team will handle your admission process and obtain your **official letter of admission.**

Once you receive this letter, you will be responsible for your **immigration procedures.** The team will provide useful information regarding these procedures, including guidance on the documents that must be submitted with your application. Regular follow-ups will be conducted, and the team will remain available to answer your questions.

🔗 **See the following questions to learn more:**

1. [What is the role of the Québec métiers d'avenir \(QMA\) support service for recipients?](#)
2. [What immigration procedures should I expect as part of my study project?](#)

When can I start my training program?

As part of the Contest, if you are selected, you must begin your training program between January 2028 and December 31, 2028. Otherwise, your scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption may be cancelled. The Québec métiers d'avenir team will confirm the exact start date of your training program during the processing of your support file.

What immigration procedures should I expect as part of my study project?

Before arriving in Quebec to pursue vocational training as an international student, you must complete the following two immigration procedures:

Step 1: Apply for and obtain a **Québec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ) for studies**, issued by the Government of Quebec.

Step 2: Apply for and obtain a **study permit**, issued by the Government of Canada.

To apply for these documents, you must first receive an **admission letter** from a vocational training centre in Quebec. The **Québec métiers d'avenir** support team will take care of this step for you, based on the training program and vocational training centre you selected through the Contest, as well as current immigration processing timelines.

🔗 For more details about the required steps, consult the [Government of Quebec website](#).

What documents will I need to provide to prove my financial capacity for immigration purposes if I am selected?

The documents accepted to demonstrate your financial capacity are:

- **Recent bank statements**, or
- **A bank letter certifying your available funds**.

Please note that you may use **up to two guarantors (co-sponsors)**. These guarantors may, but are not required to, have a family relationship with you.

If you are selected, our team will provide you with the necessary information regarding the various stages of your immigration procedures, as well as details about the acceptable financial-capacity documents that may be submitted with your applications.

If you do not meet the **financial capacity requirements**, your **financial assistance (scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption)** may be cancelled.

What is the role of the Québec métiers d'avenir support service for recipients?

If you become a recipient, **QMA will provide support**, including:

- Explaining the steps you need to follow (**admission, immigration procedures, and preparation for arrival**);
- Directing you to the appropriate **official resources** for your immigration procedures;
- Reminding you of important actions to take and deadlines to respect;
- Answering your questions to help you better understand your study project and the information you receive.

Special support will be offered if you encounter **difficulties, delays, or refusals** during your immigration procedures. You may be referred to an **immigration advisory session** with one of QMA's Regulated International Student Immigration Advisors (**RISIA**). This session, offered at a rate of CAD \$119, is optional.

Outside of such an immigration advisory session, the QMA support team may:

- Provide useful and reliable links to help you carry out your study project;
- Guide you in understanding immigration-related information and requirements;
- Answer your questions regarding the terms and conditions of the **scholarship and/or tuition fee exemption**;
- Apply the scholarship and/or exemption rules regarding **deferrals and deadlines**.

See detailed information about the Merit Scholarship Contest:

 [Merit Scholarship – Shape Your Future](#)

 Any incomplete, illegible, non-compliant, or fraudulent application may be rejected at any stage of the process.

Dates and procedures are subject to change.

 All documents must be submitted through the platform. No documents will be accepted by email.