



New Brunswick–Québec Student Exchange Program

Program Overview

The New Brunswick-Québec Student Exchange Program is a reciprocal exchange program that has operated in New Brunswick for many years. Francophone students from Québec live with New Brunswick families for three months in the fall and attend New Brunswick high schools. Later in the school year, students from New Brunswick live with Québec families for three months and attend Québec high schools.

The 2018-2019 school year marks the 31st year New Brunswick has participated in this program. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to enhance their language abilities, develop self-confidence and discover Francophone culture firsthand.

The program is available to New Brunswick high school students who will be in Grades 10 or 11 during the following academic year (current Grade 9 and 10 students) and, who are at the time of application, enrolled in Post-Intensive French or French Immersion. Application to participate is made in Grades 9 and 10 and participation occurs in Grade 10 or 11 during the next academic year.

The program is designed to give the participating student an opportunity to:

1. improve their knowledge of French as a second language;
2. learn about the Francophone culture;
3. experience a new school system; and
4. experience personal growth in areas such as social skills and independence.

In any given year, there are a limited number of places for New Brunswick students in this program. Applications from individual students are not considered without school and school district involvement and support.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for this exchange program, students must:

- be enrolled in a French Second Language Program (either Post-Intensive French or French Immersion);
- have good academic achievement and participate actively in the New Brunswick school system;
- be flexible and open to new experiences and a new culture;
- be well-motivated to participate in this type of learning activity;
- have parental, school and school district support; and
- be recommended by the liaison teacher. A **\$250** student participation fee is required if a suitable twin is found. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development covers travel expenses between the two provinces. There should be no additional school expenses in Québec. However, if a participating student insists on returning home before the end of the exchange period, for a reason unacceptable to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (i.e., home-sickness, inability to adapt) or is requested to do so by the Department for a variety of reasons (e.g., use of alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants, or difficulty with the law), parents or guardians are responsible for the additional inter-provincial travel costs.

Please, see next page for the Application Process.



Application Process

Students must complete the electronic application and print it, or print the form and complete it in black ink. Before submitting the application, all family members over the age of 18 must apply for a criminal record check (for the vulnerable sector). This must be included with the application. Once the Student Application and criminal record check are completed, the forms must be returned to the school principal for processing. After reviewing the application and deciding if it is favourable, the school principal or designate (FSL SPR or teacher) arranges for an interview to be conducted by the FSL SPR or teacher.

The student is initially interviewed at the school. Following this, interviews are conducted in the student's home. Once the interviewer has completed all the interviews, they will submit the Interview Schedule to the school principal. The school principal is asked to sign both forms (**Student Application and Interview Schedule**) on behalf of the school and to forward the forms to the District French Second Language Subject Area Coordinator for the completion of the process.

Interview Schedules, Student Application and Program Overview information can be found at the following link: www.gnb.ca/fsl.

It is essential that the application form is completed accurately, legibly and it must be typed. The criminal record check paperwork must be completed and submitted with the application. Interview schedules completed during the home visit must accompany the application.

The FSL Learning Specialist is asked to review the documents, sign the Interview Schedule document, and present the document to the District Superintendent or Director of Education for their approval and signature.

The original documents (signed) are scanned and then forwarded to Julie McAllister, Project Coordinator at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, working with Fiona Stewart, Provincial Coordinator.

If you have any questions or require further information, you may contact Julie McAllister at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (julie.mcallister@gnb.ca or (506) 453-8299).