

Eligibility for English-Language Education

Bill 115

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You would like your child to receive
an English education in Quebec?

Do you qualify?

What is a *Certificate of Eligibility* (*Déclaration d'admissibilité*)?

- A Quebec government-issued document allowing a child to attend a subsidized English elementary or secondary school

Who Needs a *Certificate of Eligibility*?

- All students who attend a government-subsidized English school in Quebec - public or private (independent)

Who can Receive a *Certificate of Eligibility*?

- A child who has at least one **Canadian parent** who attended an **English elementary school** in Canada
- A child who is in Canada on a **temporary stay** (who has his or her own study permit) or is the dependent child of someone on a **study** or **work permit**
- A child with at least one **Canadian parent**, who **qualifies under Bill 115**

A child of parents who are **Canadian permanent residents** is not eligible

About Bill 115

- Bill 115 permits the Quebec Ministry of Education to determine a student's eligibility using a point system, whereby an applicant accumulates or loses points based on several factors

15 points = *Certificate of Eligibility*

Bill 115 - The Point System

Obtaining a Certificate of Eligibility based on the Bill 115 point system depends upon:

- **When** a child starts attending English private (independent) school
- Whether his or her **siblings** attend an English private school
- What **type** of English private school the child attends

It's important to understand
the benefits and limitations of
Bill 115

Bill 115 Point System

Points Accumulated/Deducted by Student

- A student who attends a non-government subsidized English school in Quebec will **accumulate** points for each year of attendance.
- A student who attends a French Elementary school will **lose** points for each year of attendance.

Bill 115 Point System

Points Accumulated/Deducted by Siblings

- A student will **accumulate** points if one or more of their **siblings** attends a non-government-subsidized English school in Quebec
- A student will **lose** points if one or more of their **siblings** attends a French school in Quebec

Bill 115 Point System

Point Accumulation by School Type

Depending upon a school's type, points towards an Eligibility Certificate accumulate at a different pace.

The Ministry of Education designates English private schools into Types A, B or C.

The type is based upon:

- The number of enrolled students who already have Eligibility Certificates **or**
- The percentage of English instruction provided **and** the number of students who continue their secondary studies at the same school.

Bill 115 Point System

Point Accumulation by School Type

	Percentage eligible Grades 1 to 3 students		
Type A English Language Institution	60+ % elig		
1 year elementary and secondary	+2		
2 years elementary	+6		
2 years elementary and secondary	+6		
2 years secondary	+8		
3 or 4 years elementary	+15		
	Percentage eligible Grades 1 to 3 students		
Type B English Language Institution	B1 (0-25% elig)	B2 (26-40% elig)	B3 (41-59% elig)
2 to 3 years elementary or secondary, or both	+3	+4	+5
4 to 6 years elementary or secondary, or both	+8	+10	+13
7 to 11 years elementary and secondary	+13	+16	+21
	Percentage eligible Grades 1 to 3 students		
Type C English Language Institution	C1 (0-25% elig)	C2 (26-40% elig)	C3 (41-59% elig)
2 to 3 years elementary or secondary, or both	+2	+3	+4
4 to 6 years elementary or secondary, or both	+5	+7	+9
7 to 11 years elementary and secondary	+8	+11	+14

Let's take a practical look at
what this means

Case 1

Hereditary Right to Attend English School

- The parent is a Canadian citizen who attended elementary school in English in **Canada**
- The student is starting kindergarten or grade 1
 - The student will receive a Certificate of Eligibility based on his parent's education in Canada

Case 2

Eligibility through Temporary Stay

- The parents are **not** Canadian citizens but would like their child to study in Quebec **temporarily**.
- The child has his own **Canadian study permit** or the parents have their own **work or study permits**.
 - The child will receive a temporary Certificate of Eligibility valid for the duration of the work or study permit
- *What if the parents want to become Canadian permanent residents?*
 - *The child will not be able to renew his temporary Certificate of Eligibility.*

Case 3

Eligibility through Bill 115

- The parents are Canadian citizens who did not attend elementary school in English in Canada.
 - The child is starting Kindergarten or grade 1 and has no siblings.
- The child will receive the **15 points** for a Certificate of Eligibility:
- After 4 years in a Type A school
 - After 7 to 11 years in a Type B school

Case 4

Eligibility through Bill 115 – Effect of French School Attendance

- The parents are Canadian citizens who **did not** attend elementary school in English in Canada.
- The child is starting grade 3 at a Type A English private school after having spent grades 1 and 2 in a **French school**.
 - By the end of grade 6, the child will have accumulated **15 points** for English school.
 - The child will lose **10 points** for French school.
 - With **5 points**, the child will not receive a Certificate of Eligibility.

Case 5

Eligibility through Bill 115 – Effects of Siblings

- The parents are Canadian citizens who **did not** attend elementary School in English in Canada.
- The child is starting kindergarten or grade 1 at a Type A English school and has an older sister who has been attending a French school for 5 years.
 - By the end of grade 6, the child in English school will have accumulated **20 points**.
 - However, the sister who has attended French school for over 5 years will cause the younger child to lose **20 points** and the child will not receive a Certificate.

The Best Advice

- **Start English language education as early as possible – Kindergarten.**
- **Ensure that all siblings attend an independent English school.**
- **Contact the admissions office of the independent school in which you are interested for more details.**

How do I Apply for a *Certificate of Eligibility*?

- **Contact the admissions office of the school of your choice in order to process the application.**
- **Applications made under Bill 115 can take several months to process.**
- **A family has 60 days to appeal the decision if the application for a certificate is denied.**

Remember

- The choice of your child's school depends upon many things, not just eligibility.
- Take into account:
 - Your child's specific needs, personality, and learning strengths and weaknesses
 - Your family's goals and values
- There is a perfect school for every child.



www.qais.qc.ca

Quebec Ministry of Education:

<http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/parents-et-tuteurs/admissibilite-a-lenseignement-en-anglais/>