Recruiting international students

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Not only is Québec Canada’s largest province, it also has the distinction of being the cradle of French-speaking America. Every year some 25,000 international students are welcomed to its French- and English-speaking educational institutions.

CEGEP André-Laurendeau is receiving more international students all the time. In this section you will find everything you need to know about studying at our CEGEP, including what we do administratively and educationally to make your stay an academic and personal success.

Why Canada, why Québec?

Why Canada?
Here are ten good reasons to study in Canada:

- Excellence of the college and university education systems
- International recognition of the quality of Canadian diplomas
- Possibility of working in Canada for one or two years after obtaining your diploma
- Opportunity to improve your English in a bilingual country
- Vibrant campus life
- Modern infrastructure accessible to everyone
- Safe and stable country
- A population open to all cultures
- Magnificent nature close to cities
- The United Nations regularly rates Canada as one of the countries with the best quality of life

There is no national department of education Canada. Each of the three territories and ten provinces is responsible for its own policies on education, higher education and research.

In Canada, when talking about higher education, we also use the term postsecondary studies. These studies are divided into two systems: college and university. The college system comprises colleges, institutes and, in Québec, CEGEPs (general and vocational colleges).
Why Québec, more specifically, why Montréal?
Québec ensures the quality of programs offered in all public institutions under its education system (through legislation, external assessment agencies, certification by professional bodies, etc.).

You can choose from a vast array of study programs in French or English, depending on the institution selected.

Tuition fees for international students in Québec compare favourably to those in other industrialized countries. Also the cost of living is one of the lowest in Canada.

Higher education institutions in Québec are equipped with ultramodern infrastructure (high technology laboratories, computer rooms, sports facilities, multipurpose auditoriums, etc.), regardless of their size and location.

Studying in Québec gives you the unique experience of living in North America in French. A crossroads of Latin and Anglo-Saxon cultures enriched by the contributions of multiethnic immigration, Québec offers you a stimulating and safe environment.

Last, Québec—three times the size of France—is synonymous with wide open spaces. It features many lakes, rivers and national parks that take on a different appearance in each of the four seasons. Québec is officially a French-speaking province of eastern Canada, bordered on the west by the province of Ontario and Hudson Bay; on the north by the Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay; on the east by the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick; and on the south by the United States (states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York).

Founded in 1642, Montréal is now a modern city of close of two million people. The island of Montréal is 40 km long and 15 km wide. It is one of the many islands in the archipelago formed by the confluence of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers. The city’s main attractions are Old Montréal, the St. Lawrence River, Mount Royal and the neighbourhoods built around this small mountain, displaying remarkable architectural variety. Above all are the city’s warm and welcoming residents, people who are easygoing and curious, and make Montréal a city without compare in North America.

The Québec school system
The CEGEP network offers pre-university and technical career programs:

The two-year pre-university programs prepare students for university.

The three-year technical programs lead to jobs as technicians or technologists but can also be followed by university studies. The third year of technical programs is one of specialization, which carries great academic weight.

The two types of programs lead to a Diploma of College Studies (DEC).

For more information:
Why CEGEP André-Laurendeau?

At CEGEP André-Laurendeau, you will receive continued support and guidance.

CEGEP André-Laurendeau has been welcoming new international students for many years. It has a solid, well-organized structure that reflects our strong determination to develop our activities internationally and expand our recruitment of students from abroad.

The CEGEP is firmly rooted in its community and offers a multitude of academic and extracurricular opportunities:

Student residences and housing: Single- or double-occupancy studios are fully furnished and include a bathroom, equipped kitchenette, a large entrance hall and storage space.

Off campus housing: Every week, Student Life Services posts lists of apartments and rooms available near the CEGEP.

Many resource persons:

- Financial aid advisor
- Individual academic advisor (API)
- Guidance counsellors
- Social workers
- Job search advisors

Many services to help students succeed:

- Student Integration Service (SAIDE)
- Learning Support Services
- Information and media crossroads: a technological library
- French language support and supervision
- A varied, enriching student life

CEGEP André-Laurendeau is a complete campus with many facilities:

- Specialized laboratories: nanotechnologies, nursing, architecture, multimedia, photography and communication, science, languages, computer science, logistics, etc.
Ultramodern Cégep centre including a vertical climbing centre;
Multimedia centre housed in the library;
Regional multipurpose auditorium seating 811;
Swimming pool complex with four pools.

Student life
Student life is very much a part of CEGEP André-Laurendeau. Our students engage in a variety of activities and thereby integrate more fully in the CEGEP’s environment.

Student Life Services organizes and facilitates a gamut of cultural activities. The CEGEP also has a very modern sports centre, including a climbing centre, and you can join any one of 10 sports teams!

STUDYING AND WORKING?
Once you are in Québec, Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) may grant you permission to work part time during your studies, under certain conditions.

Work on campus and internships
As an international student, you may take a job at the school you are attending provided you hold a study permit and continue to study full time. The number of jobs available on campus is limited however.
You may also work outside your school if the job consists of an internship (paid or unpaid) that is an integral part of your Québec study program. In this case, usually you must obtain a work permit from the Canadian authorities.

Work off campus
CEGEP André-Laurendeau is a participant in the program of work permits off campus for international students. You could therefore be eligible for a work permit allowing you to take any job off campus for up to 20 hours a week during regular sessions and full time during vacations stipulated in the academic calendar.

To read about the conditions that apply to work situations, visit the Citizenship and Immigration Canada website: http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/study/work.asp

Welcoming international students
To guide and orient you in your future environment, the CEGEP provides a set of guides on a number of subjects.

The following guides are at your disposal:

Guide for international students - List of documents needed to register
Guide for international students – Subway map
At the airport
The CEGEP doesn’t meet students at the airport. We strongly urge you to sign up free of charge for Cégep international’s Accueil Plus service, which meets students at the airport in August and September.
Students who arrive at other times will find all the information they need to get to downtown Montréal in the Guide to welcome international students.

At the CEGEP
On arrival at the CEGEP, you will be welcomed by the registrar, who will see to registering you and will explain all the paperwork to be done before the session begins.

During the session
During the session, you will have access to all of the CEGEP’s services (social worker, placement service, etc.). Your teachers will also be receptive if you have a problem.

Which program to choose
To be admitted into one of our many study programs, you must have a secondary school diploma and, if applicable, you must have passed the prerequisite course(s) or the equivalent for the program of your choice. Feel free to read about the programs to obtain more information on the admission requirements for those that interest you.

How to apply

SRAM
Important note for international students wishing to make an application :
For the Fall Session (end of August), applications must be completed and sent to the Service regional d’admission du Montréal métropolitain (Greater Montreal Regional Admissions Service, SRAM) before February 15.

For the Winter Session (end of January), applications must be sent to the SRAM before October 15.

These two deadlines are the only ones for international students’ applications, the reason being the issuance of visas. The other dates concern students from Québec.
To pursue higher education studies in Québec, you must meet the admission conditions of the school of your choice (no entrance examination), demonstrate your ability to pay for your studies and be granted entry by the immigration authorities.

After you chose a study program, you must fill out the application for admission provided by the Service régional d’admission du Montréal métropolitain (SRAM).

If your documents are not in French, please send an official translation of them in French.

Service régional d’admission du Montréal métropolitain (SRAM)
C.P. 11 028
Succursale Centre-ville
Montréal (Québec)
Canada H3C 4W9
http://www.sram.qc.ca

It is the Regional Admissions Service’s responsibility to determine the equivalence of your diplomas with Québec ones. Taking into account your choice of programs, the SRAM will notify CEGEP André-Laurendeau, which will make the final decision about your admission.

FOCUS on health and hospitalization insurance

Under the regulations of the Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l’Immigration du Québec and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, all international students are required to have a health and hospitalization insurance contract, valid in Canada, that covers them and their accompanying dependants. Otherwise they must be covered by a reciprocity agreement on health care and social security.

Students from France, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Greece will receive health care free of charge from the Régie de l’Assurance-maladie du Québec (except for dental care, eye examinations, eyeglasses and medication), as long as they are already covered by their country’s social security.

To obtain a Québec health insurance card, you must bring with you the original of the relevant document mentioned below when you arrive at the CEGEP. The CEGEP will provide you with information on how to obtain Québec health insurance.

France: Form SE-401-Q-106, available from the caisse primaire d’assurance maladie in the place where you live;
Belgium: Form BE/QUE128, issued by the INAMI;
Denmark: Form Que-Dan4, issued by Copenhagen health services;
Finland: Form SF-Q4, issued by the Social Coverage Institution;
Luxembourg: Form Lux-Que4, issued by the Caisse de maladie luxembourgeoise;
Portugal: Bureau of Social Security in Portugal for social security abroad;
Norway: Certificate issued by the National Bureau of Social Security for social security abroad; Sweden: Social Security Certificate in Sweden, issued by the National Social Insurance Board.

If you do not come from a country with a reciprocity agreement, you must subscribe to the group health and hospitalization insurance plan for international students at CEGEPs and private colleges. The cost per session is $250 (Winter 2012). The CEGEP will take care of enrolling you in the plan, the premium being payable when you register at the CEGEP.

**Important: You will not be allowed to register at the CEGEP without proof of your health and hospitalization insurance.**

**FOCUS on tuition and registration fees**
All students attending a CEGEP must pay their tuition and registration fees, in addition to the admission fees to be paid to the SRAM.

For students from other countries (except for France) tuition and registration fees for the Fall 2011/Winter 2012 Sessions are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of study</th>
<th>Tuition fees per session (full time)</th>
<th>Registration fee per session (full time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-university programs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human affairs technology</td>
<td>$4949</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business administration techniques</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical sciences technology</td>
<td>$6406</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and language arts technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological technology</td>
<td>$7670</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that the academic year consists of two sessions.

**These fees are payable on arrival at the CEGEP and may be subject to change without prior notice!**

**FOCUS on your choice of courses and schedule**
The CEGEP will send you documents on course choices. You should send them back to the CEGEP as soon as possible, along with your registration fee. When you arrive in Québec, the CEGEP’s Registrar’s Office will ask you to pay the tuition fees for the program you have chosen and will give you your choice of courses and your schedule.

School calendar:

The Fall Session begins around August 20 and ends around December 20.
The Winter Session begins around January 21 and ends around May 25.

Classes are usually scheduled on weekdays and start at 8:00 a.m. at the earliest and end at 6:00 p.m. at the latest.

**Institutional agreements**

With the aim of developing our activities internationally, the CEGEP maintains privileged relations with some institutions allowing for specific admission and registration measures.

CEGEP André-Laurendeau is interested in developing such agreements all over the world, especially with regard to:

- Recruiting international students
- International internships
- Instructor mobility

For more information, feel free to contact us: international@claurendeau.qc.ca

**Useful links**


- Which program to choose [https://sram-international.omnivox.ca/svad/OffreDeProgrammesAdmission/?C=SRM&E=P&L=FRA&Ref=20111201125403](https://sram-international.omnivox.ca/svad/OffreDeProgrammesAdmission/?C=SRM&E=P&L=FRA&Ref=20111201125403)

**Contact**

The international service is made up of many people at the CEGEP who work on different facets of students’ academic life.
If you have any questions, please send us an e-mail at the following address: international@claurendeau.qc.ca

The international service will forward your question to the appropriate person.