



Teaching in French in Ontario



Do you have a love for teaching?

Do you love French language and culture?

Then you should explore a career teaching in French in Ontario, where there is a strong and long-term demand for more French teachers!

Teaching in French goes beyond language. It also involves instilling an understanding and appreciation of Franco-Ontarian culture and heritage. This dynamic culture incorporates diverse Francophone communities and, as such, offers a window into intercultural understanding and global citizenship, which benefits all students.

► **How Ontario students learn French**

All students in Ontario learn French. Students can learn French at a French-language school or as a second language at an English-language school. At a French-language school, all subjects are taught in French and schools are expected to give students a solid foundation in Francophone culture. At an English-language school, students can learn French as a subject (core), or they can choose extended French or French immersion programs where French is the language of instruction for a variety of subjects.

► **Quick facts:**

- Ontario's publicly funded education system has:
 - 12 French-language school boards with over 450 French-language schools.
 - 60 English-language school boards with over 4,400 schools that offer French as a second language.
- Students in English-language schools are required to study French as a second language (FSL) from Grades 4 to 8 and earn at least one credit in FSL in secondary school.
- Ontario is the province with the **largest number of Francophones** outside of Quebec, with over 600,000 Francophones.

► **Ontario needs more teachers qualified to teach in French**

There is a strong demand for learning French in Ontario schools, because it opens up a world of career and social opportunities which enrich life. However, the province is facing a severe and long-term shortage of qualified French teachers. Currently, both French- and English-language school boards are experiencing a shortage of French-language and French as a second language teachers.



French-language teachers in Ontario have excellent job prospects. In fact, three out of four graduates of French-language teacher education programs were hired last year. And more than 600 teachers were hired in French-language boards alone.

In 2016, the average Ontario teacher's salary was more than \$75,000, after five years of teaching, which is among the highest in both Canada and other Co-operation and Organisation for Economic Development (OECD) countries.

Besides a competitive salary, new teachers in Ontario are provided with ongoing support and professional development, including mentoring, through the [New Teacher Induction Program \(NTIP\)](#). Teaching in Ontario is especially rewarding since its publicly funded education system has been acknowledged as one of the best in the world, according to [McKinsey and Company](#).

► **What you need to become a teacher**

To teach at a publicly funded elementary or secondary school in Ontario, you will need:

- 1) an undergraduate degree from a university or college (a BSc, for example); and
- 2) a Bachelor of Education degree (or equivalent), which includes four semesters of postsecondary study.

► **Requirements for teacher education**

As of September 1, 2015, Ontario's teacher education program has changed.

The current program features:

- four semesters
- a minimum of 80 days practice teaching
- greater focus on students' mental health, well-being and diversity
- greater focus on how to teach using technology.

► **Teacher education at Ontario's faculties of education**

Students can choose either a:

- **concurrent** program for those who want to complete both their undergraduate degree and a 16-month Bachelor of Education program at the same time
- **consecutive** program for students who have completed an undergraduate degree and are looking to complete their Bachelor of Education.

For information about programs and admission requirements, you will need to contact the individual faculty.

► **Applying to a teacher education program**

You may apply online to publicly funded consecutive programs of teacher education through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) website at ouac.on.ca.

► **Getting into a teacher education program**

Language proficiency is essential: teaching in French in the French-language system requires superior French-language skills; teaching French in the English-language system requires advanced French- and English-language skills.

Besides language proficiency, faculties of education also use marks, an interview or a points system that weighs marks and volunteer experience when considering student applications.

Many programs also ask applicants to complete a profile that details their experience working with students. This means that volunteer work with school, community, recreation or religious programs may be helpful. Check the faculty websites for details.

Teacher education programs are listed on page 4.

► **If you are already a qualified teacher in Ontario**

If you are proficient in French you may obtain qualifications to teach French as a Second Language. Additional Qualification (AQ) courses allow teachers to add another division or subject area to what they are already qualified to teach.

More information can be found on these courses through the [Ontario College of Teachers](#).

If you are already a qualified French teacher, you can find job opportunities through the [Jobs in Education](#) website.

► **If you are a Canadian-certified teacher who has trained outside of Ontario**

With a few exceptions, certified teachers from anywhere in Canada can be recognized in Ontario, without any additional training, experience, or assessments.

Learn more about receiving a Certificate of Qualification and Registration at the [Ontario College of Teachers](#).

► **For those living outside of Canada**

Internationally educated teachers will need to have their qualifications assessed by the Ontario College of Teachers. Please see [oct.ca](#) for more information.

Living in Ontario offers many advantages. It is an economically vibrant and prosperous province that offers excellent job opportunities for teachers qualified to teach in French. All permanent residents

have access to publicly funded health care services. Furthermore, children ages 4-18 have access to a high quality, free, publicly funded education system.

Ontario welcomes those who want to teach in French or study in a teacher education program. By working or studying here, you will be making a contribution to Ontario's rich cultural diversity while strengthening Ontario's Francophone culture.

You can find more information about living, working and studying in Ontario through the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration at [ontarioimmigration.ca](#).

► **Ontario College of Teachers: the next step after teacher education**

In order to teach in Ontario's publicly funded elementary and secondary schools, you must become a member of the Ontario College of Teachers. The College licenses, governs and regulates Ontario's teaching profession. It also sets ethical and practice standards, accredits teacher education programs and conducts disciplinary hearings.

More information about the College is available at [oct.ca/about-the-college](#).



► Teacher education programs in Ontario

French-language teacher education

Laurentian University

School of Education

Sudbury, ON

Telephone: 705-675-1151 ext. 4286

Toll-free: 1-800-461-4030

laurentian.ca/program/education

email: explore@laurentian.ca

University of Ottawa

Faculty of Education

Ottawa, ON

Telephone: 613-562-5804

education.uottawa.ca/en

email: educprog@uottawa.ca

Note: The University of Ottawa teacher education program has campuses in Ottawa, Toronto and Windsor.

French as a second language teacher education

Brock University

Faculty of Education

St. Catharines, ON

Telephone: 905-688-5550 ext. 3550

brocku.ca/education

email: admissions@brocku.ca

Nipissing University

Faculty of Education

North Bay, ON

Telephone: 705-474-3450

nipissingu.ca/

email: nuinfo@nipissingu.ca

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education / University of Toronto

Office of the Registrar and

Student Services

Toronto, ON

Telephone: 416-978-4300

oise.utoronto.ca/ite/home/index.html

email: admissions.oise@utoronto.ca

Queen's University

Faculty of Education Admissions Student Services

Kingston, ON

Telephone: 613-533-2000

educ.queensu.ca

Trent University

Education Admissions Office

Peterborough, ON

Telephone: 705-748-1011 ext. 7738

Toll-free: 1-855-MY-TRENT

trentu.ca/education

email: schoolofed@trentu.ca

University of Ottawa

Faculty of Education

Ottawa, ON

Telephone: 613-562-5804

education.uottawa.ca/en

email: educprog@uottawa.ca

University of Western Ontario

Faculty of Education

London, ON

Telephone: 519-661-2080

edu.uwo.ca

email: eduwo@uwo.ca

York University

Faculty of Education Admissions Office

Toronto, ON

Telephone: 416-736-5001

edu.yorku.ca

► Helpful links:

Ontario Ministry of Education

Information about teaching in French in Ontario.

ontario.ca/dfje

Overview of French-language education in Ontario.

edu.gov.on.ca/eng/amenagement

Facts about Ontario's publicly funded education system.

edu.gov.on.ca/eng/educationFacts.html

Information for teachers, including professional development, curriculum and more.

edu.gov.on.ca/eng/teachers

Ontario College of Teachers (OCT)

Information about the College, including professional standards and accreditation.

oct.ca

Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC)

The OUAC processes applications for admission to undergraduate teacher education programs at Ontario's universities.

ouac.on.ca

