

Navigating Quebec's Language Laws



● Health and social services

Anyone who's more comfortable communicating in English than in French has the right to access health care in English.



● Provincial and municipal services (like driver's licences or waste collection)

Most of the time, someone must meet certain requirements to receive provincial and municipal services in English. For example, someone who has a certificate of eligibility to attend English public school in Quebec can receive these services in English.



● Education

Children must meet eligibility criteria or get permission to go to public school in English. Anyone can go to CEGEP or university in English, but spots may be limited.



● Work

Employers can only hire someone to work in English if it's necessary, like in a call centre serving English speakers.



● Customer and client services

Customers or clients can ask for service in their preferred language. But freelancers, companies or organizations usually aren't required to offer service in English.



● Access to justice

Anyone can use English when resolving a dispute outside of court or in court. Translation or interpretation may be used.



● Housing

The lease or sale agreement for a residence can only be in English if everyone signing it agrees.



● Future and end-of-life planning

Wills, protection mandates, powers of attorney, and advanced medical directives can all be in English.



Important Notice

The law changes. This infographic is up to date to January 2025, including the changes brought by Bill 96. The legal information in this infographic only applies in Quebec and is not legal advice. If you need advice on a specific situation, consult a notary or a lawyer. © Éducaloi, 2025.

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