

· The Quebec immigration program still relies on interviews to subjectively assess the language abilities of the applicant (English/French), whereas, the Federal program no longer uses the interviews to establish language ability and requests that applicants provide official test results from the IELTS (International English Language Test System) or the TEF (Test d'Evaluation de Française) tests. Often, visa offices require test results at the time the application is submitted. Applicants, who have completed post-secondary studies in English or French, may have this requirement waived.

The Quebec Immigration Officer will evaluate language ability during the interview by asking questions and by providing simple texts. The applicant will then have to:

1) understand questions relating to various aspects of everyday life,

2) answer these questions with complete sentences using proper grammar and proper pronunciation, and

3) read a short text and comprehend the general sense of it.

· The Quebec processing times are considerably shorter. Currently, some of the Quebec visa offices at the Canadian Embassies make decisions about applications within three (3) months – whether to invite the applicant for an interview or issues a Quebec Selection Certificate, without the requiring of the interview.

· Single applicants are not disadvantaged or handicapped in terms of their ability to attain the passing mark, as is the case in the Federal program. Because there are two independent point score grids – one for single applicants and one for couples.