

FAQs

1. Are all schools French?

Yes, all schools in our program use French as the primary language of instruction. English is offered as a language course. Spanish is also offered as a second-language course in some schools.

2. What is the language environment like?

Some parts of New Brunswick are more English, some parts are more bilingual and some parts are very French. Students can indicate their preference and we will try to accommodate this.

3. Is it possible to have a bilingual program?

The main focus of our program is French. We want students to be able to learn French or to improve their French skills in a region where people speak French daily. However, most students in our program also improve their English skills while they are here, as they are able to practise English in their community.

4. Is it possible to have an English homestay family?

No, we do not have all-English homestay families. All of our host families speak French and they are all bilingual. We believe it is important for students to be able to practise French at home and at school.

5. Can students request a specific school when applying?

Yes. We try to accommodate student preferences as much as possible. Of course, this is more difficult to do with late applications and also depends on homestay availabilities.

6. How do students fly to New Brunswick?

There are four main airports in New Brunswick (Moncton, Fredericton, Bathurst, Saint John), with many daily connections through Toronto and Montreal. We will advise agents of the recommended airport and travel

dates according to student placements, and we ask agents to book all flights accordingly.

7. Do students need to have a certain level of French to be accepted?

No, we accept all students who have the motivation and interest in learning French and have a report card that demonstrates that they have the academic ability to do so.

8. Can students graduate?

Yes, if they fulfill all graduation requirements and indicate their intention to graduate in their Program Application.

General Overview of the NBFISP schools

High schools are Grades 9 to 12.
Middle schools are Grades 6 to 8.
(Some schools are K-8, or even K-12.)

Class size: The maximum number of students per class is 29.

Semester schools: All of our high schools have 2 semesters of 5 months.

Number of courses: Students in high schools take 5 courses per semester.

School calendar: The 1st semester starts the Tuesday after Labor Day and finishes at the end of January. The 2nd semester starts at the end of January and finishes the Friday of the 3rd full week of June.

Major holidays: 2-week break at Christmas, 1-week break the first full week of March, 4-day break at Easter, and long weekends for certain holidays.

Students may visit their home countries during the school holidays. This may incur additional fees for transportation to and from the airport (see Independent Travel section). As well, any extension of these holidays that involves students missing school is strongly discouraged; and any exams or tests missed due to that practice will be forfeited. A fee for holiday travel during these periods may also be incurred.

School services: All schools have cafeterias, gymnasiums, computer labs, as well as a variety of student services like guidance counselors and social workers.



Curriculum: All French public schools in New Brunswick follow the curriculum established by the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. All courses are taught under the careful supervision of qualified teachers.

School supplies: All students are responsible for buying their own school supplies (a list will be provided by the school). The school books, manuals, and musical instruments will be provided free of charge. All schools charge an annual school fee that ranges from \$25 to \$80 which covers the price of a student identification card, concerts, shows that are presented during the year, special celebrations or theme days, and other school activities. All students need to pay this fee during the first week of school.

Report cards: Students receive one mid-term report card and one final report card during each semester.

Graduation

- Students must indicate upon applying to the Program if they wish to graduate from their school in New Brunswick.
- Graduation is not possible if the student has already graduated in their home country.
- Students must fulfill the New Brunswick graduation requirements.
- In New Brunswick, students obtain their high school diploma in grade 12, and can then pursue postsecondary studies.
- Students will incur the cost of additional course(s) necessary for graduation offered outside the regular school schedule, as well additional costs associated with graduation activities (photos, prom, etc.).



Validation

Students that need their school year validated by the Consulate of their country must advise their agent and the NBFISP office. We will take care of sending all of the necessary documents to have the report cards validated (the fee is indicated in the NBFISP Fee Schedule).