



Guide to enrolling children in school

If you have school-age children, you will need to enroll them in school through NLESD. This guide provides basic and general guidelines for enrolling your children in school.

Remember that [MUN University](#) and the [Association of New Canadians](#) can guide you through this process and that on the [SchoolNL](#) website you can find all the information you need.

Overview

Basic education is free from preschool to the last year of secondary school and can be in English or French. For immigrants you must have a valid permit for it to be free.

It is mandatory for children between 5 and 16 years old. Schools are divided into districts and the school children go to is determined by where they live and vacancies.

System: children are assigned to a grade depending on age.

Kindergarten, must be 5 years old or turn 5 years old on December 31 of the year in which school begins.

Primary: grades K through sixth, are usually between 5 and 11 years old.

Secondary, from 7th to 9th grade, are usually between 12 and 14 years old.

Secondary, grades 10, 11 and 12 are usually between 15 and 17 years old.

School year and timetable: School starts at the beginning of September, after Labour Day which is a public holiday, and ends at the end of June. School hours may vary between 8:15AM and 3:30PM. There are holidays for the Christmas and New Year holidays and around Easter a week. In addition to national and provincial holidays, they have "Professional Development Days (PD)", pedagogical days in which there is no school. At the beginning of the year you will receive the full schedule.

Bus: You can request that your children go by [bus](#). You will first need [to register](#) on the page with the student number assigned to your child(ren). You can also fill out a [form](#) if you have any questions. The page has the option of translation into Spanish.

1. Determine your school district

[NL School District](#) has 4 regional offices throughout the province.



To enroll your children, you must first find out which district you reside in to find out which schools correspond to them. [Here](#) you can search for which school you are in.

School assignment, enrollment and transfer (in the province or from your country of origin to NL): Read carefully and familiarize yourself with [this document](#) where you will find ALL the information, forms and requirements to enroll your children in school.

2. Documentation

1. Proof of age: passport or the certificate of "landed immigrant".
2. Proof of Address where you reside: A *copy* of, for example, the rent/lease agreement, bank statement, telephone, electricity or any other service that has your name and address in NL, Ca.
3. Proof of guardianship.
4. Proof of immigration status: which is usually in the passport, "landed immigrant", confirmation or permanent resident card.
5. MCP: the number.
6. Other documentation: they may ask you for vaccinations and other permits. Contact the [ANC](#) settlement office if you need help with this documentation.

3. Preschool Enrollment

In the year your child turns 4 years old, you can register them in the [Kinderstart](#) program. This is a program that helps the child become familiar with the school. It consists of 5 to 10 transition sessions at school where the child and the mothers, fathers and/or legal guardians will attend the school for one hour.

Registration is in May of each year. You can choose between English or French immersion and depending on this and the vacancies, between the schools of the district that corresponds to you. Once they are enrolled in school, they enter the system and you will not have to enroll them anymore, unless you want to transfer them (below).

The [French immersion](#) is for non-French-speaking people. The school curriculum will be the same, but in French. You also have the option to send them later and you don't need to know the language to send them. In that link you will find all the information you need.

Here is a [video tutorial](#) from [NLSchool](#) to make it easier for you to register.

4. Enrollment in other degrees

If you have children over 6 years old, contact [NLSchool](#), or the [ANC](#), to find out what documentation you need to request and bring with you before traveling.



To enroll older children, you must obtain an acceptance letter from the [NLSchools](#) first. You can request it by email: nlise@nlschools.ca or by calling 709-758-2372. We recommend that you provide some information about the children, such as their full name, age, address, and immigration status, for example, to get a better answer.

In this case, in addition to the documentation mentioned above, it is likely that you will need the documentation from your country of origin that shows the history, file or certificate (as they call the "*school record*" in your country) translated into English.

You will need to complete this [Student Data Form](#).

Please read [this document](#) carefully to understand and ensure that you have all the proper information and procedures.

The ANC has an English as a Second Language or ESL program that is part of the programs offered by some schools in some districts. You can also consult [ANC](#).

5. Transfer

In case you change residence and want to change schools, or simply decide to change schools for any reason, or decide that you want them to learn French or switch to English, you will have to request a transfer and fill out a [form](#).

Read about the policies and procedures for [late immersion transfer in French](#).

6. Useful information

6.1. Daycare and after-school programs

a. Where to start?

[Province's Child Care Listing](#)

[Family and Child Care Connections](#) is a non-profit organization where you can find programs for your children to play or be cared for after school while you finish work.

b. From 0 to 2 years:

Care for children under 2 years of age is in high demand, has long waiting lists and can be very expensive. Daycare can be part-time or a few days, or full-time.

Here's a guide on things to consider:

<https://findingqualitychildcare.ca/newfoundland-and-labrador>

List of schools and families throughout the province by the government:

Note: This is an informational guide, please use official channels of the Government of Canada
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<https://familyandchildcareconnections.ca/child-care-provider-search/>

Other programs you can participate in with your children

<https://mothergoosenl.ca/programs-1>

The library near your community and community centers, and the [YMCA](#) also offer playgroups, activities for mothers with their babies and children and for children after school.

c. From 2 to 5 years old:

From the age of 2 it is easier to find a nursery and activities.

List of centers and families that function as registered nurseries in the province:

<https://familyandchildcareconnections.ca/child-care-provider-search/>

6.2. University

Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, better known as MUN, offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs. To apply, you can look at their [page](#).

If you have any questions, contact the internationalization office by scheduling a consultation: <https://www.mun.ca/international/>

6.3. College

If you have a trade and want to work in it, or you want to learn one and have a quick job and with a paid internship, you will probably need a license to work. In the province there are 3 colleges where you can study in person or online at your own pace depending on the program you choose. At these institutions, you can also earn your high school diploma or improve your grades to be accepted to university.

CNA

<https://www.cna.nl.ca/admissions/international-students>

Keyin

https://learnmore.keyin.com/?Sub_ID=keyin%20college&gad_source=1

Academy Canada

https://www.academycanada.com/?_vsrefdom=ac&gad_source=1

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7. Other Resources

General information from the [Canadian government](#).

General information about the province in Spanish and English [ANC](#)

MUN' s [internationalization office](#) also has information for parents who are students at the university.

[NL SCHOOL](#) and all regulations

[PowerSchool](#) is a portal for parents/guardians and students to access up-to-date grades/grades, assessment information, attendance records, assignment due dates, and school announcements.

Other Information About [Education in NL](#)

[Kinderstatr/Good Start](#) NL