

Frequently Asked Questions

Secondary Admissions and French Language Programs

French Programs General Information

Q1: Can I begin French Immersion (or Extended French*) in Grade 9?

No. Students who will continue French Immersion (or Extended French*) secondary school began in either Junior Kindergarten, Grade 4. There is no entry to French Immersion (or Extended French*) at Grade 9.

Students who complete the elementary French Immersion program through Grade 8 may choose to continue that program at the designated pathway school for French Immersion, based on their home address.

***Note:** The Extended French Program is currently phasing out.

The Junior Extended French program (Grade 4 entry) will be phased out entirely.

- Students who begin the Grade 4 Junior Extended French (JEF) in September 2020 will be able to complete Grade 8 in Extended French.
- There will be no new Grade 9 Extended French in September 2025.
- Students who complete the Grade 8 Junior Extended French program in June of 2025 and who are interested in a continuation of the French program will be accommodated in the French Immersion program in Grade 9 in September 2025.
- For contextual Information on the French Review, please visit the [French Review and Upcoming Changes to French Programs page](#).

Q2: How would you continue in French Immersion if your home school does not have French Immersion? Do you have to apply?

Every address has a “home school” for French Immersion. The school may be different from the home school for English. It is considered the same sort of address association. If your child is attending that school, there is no need to apply to the pathway secondary school, unless you have moved outside the address association.

Q3: If my child is already in a French Immersion program, do they have to apply for the secondary program their school feeds to or is it automatic?

If your child is attending the French Immersion program school that serves your principal residential home address, they will flow to the next school on the pathway. Your current school will aid with this process.

Q4: How do I determine my French Immersion (Extended French*) secondary school?

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Every elementary French Immersion (Extended French*) school has a designated pathway school for secondary. Please see the [Pathways French Language Programs](#) page. Please note that some secondary schools are currently phasing out the Extended French Program. Please visit the [Secondary French Programs](#) page.

Q5: My child is currently attending a French Immersion program in a TDSB school, and we have moved. Can he/she/they transfer to a new school?

Yes, if a child is already attending a French Immersion program in TDSB and the family moves to another TDSB school with a French Immersion program, the child may transfer to the new area school regardless of space constraints subject to proof of residency within the French Immersion catchment as per [Operational Procedure PR518 - Admission Eligibility Requirements](#).

This protection is suspended in the case of an existing waitlist. Waitlists are only in place at the entry grades (i.e., Junior Kindergarten or Grade 4).

Intensive French Programs and Out-of-Area Admissions

Q1: What is an Intensive French Program?

Early French Immersion (JK) and the Middle French Immersion (Grade 4) are the two system-wide “Intensive” French programs. In both these programs, students develop their proficiency in French by studying French language as well as other subjects taught in French. Both of these programs are designed for families who do **not** speak French at home. For more information, please see the [French Language Program](#) page.

Q2: Can I apply to enter an Intensive French Program through Out-of-Area Admissions?

No. Applicants must apply to enter Early French Immersion or Middle French Immersion at the designated system entry points (i.e., Junior Kindergarten or Grade 4) as outlined on the page [French Programs](#). Once registered and enrolled, you can apply to attend a French Language program school other than your pathway school by address through the Out-of-Area Admissions process.

***Note:** The Extended French Program is currently phasing out of secondary schools. The system entry point for Grade 4 is the Middle French Immersion.

Q3: Can I choose a different secondary school than the one associated with my home address for French Immersion/Extended French*?

- If you wish to attend a French Immersion program (Extended French*) program at a secondary school that is not the one associated with your principal residential home address, you will need to apply via the [Out-of-Area Admissions](#) process within the appropriate timelines.

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- Please note the timelines of the Out-of-Area Admissions process. To learn more about the Out-of-Area Admissions application, submission dates and timelines, please visit:
 - [Elementary Out-of-Area Admissions website](#)
 - [Secondary Out-of-Area Admissions website](#)
- Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability and program suitability.
- If accepted, no transportation is provided.

Q4: What if I am at my elementary French Immersion program as an Out-of-Area (formerly Optional Attendance) student?

If the French Immersion program school you are attending in Grade 8 is not your home French Immersion program school by address, you will continue at the French Immersion program for the secondary school for your home address.

If you wish to attend a French Immersion secondary school that is not the one associated with your home address, you will need to apply via the [Out-of-Area Admissions](#) process within the timelines of that process.

Q5: How do I know if I am an Out-of-Area (formerly optional attendance) student?

If you have changed principal residential home address since your initial placement in French Immersion (Extended French*), you would have been allowed to complete the grade range of your French Immersion (Extended*) French program school but would be considered “Out-of-Area” to that pathway and you **must** revert to your home school by address at the transition.

If you applied to your French Immersion (Extended French*) school via the Out-of-Area (formerly Optional Attendance) process in the first place, you are attending your school as an Out-of-Area student. You may complete the French Immersion grade range of that school but then **must** revert to your home school by address at each transition.

Alternatively, you may apply to another secondary school via [Out-of-Area Admissions](#) within the timelines of the application. Acceptance at these schools is subject to space availability and program suitability.

Joining French Immersion at the Secondary Level

Q1: My child is currently attending French Immersion in another public school board in Canada and we are moving to Toronto. Can he/she/they join an Early French Immersion program in the TDSB?

A child who has been attending a French Immersion program in another public school board may join a French Immersion program at a school associated with the new principal residential

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home address regardless of space subject to proof of residency within the French Immersion catchment as per [Operational Procedure PR518 - Admission Eligibility Requirements](#).

The student must have been attending a program that is equivalent or nearly equivalent to the program he/she/they wishes to join.

For more information about TDSB program models, please visit the [French Language Programs](#) page.

Q2: My child is currently attending a francophone (French first language) school. Can he/she/they join a French Immersion program in the TDSB?

If there is available space in the TDSB French Immersion program associated with your principal residential home address, he/she/they may be admitted. If there is no space, there will be no admission.

Q3: My child is currently attending a French Immersion program in the Catholic school board. Can he/she/they transfer to French Immersion in a TDSB school?

If the child is attending a Catholic school, he/she/they may be admitted to a TDSB French Immersion program associated with their principal residential home address based on two criteria:

- available space
- equivalency of academic background in French.

For more information about TDSB program models, please visit [French Language Programs](#)

Q4: My child is currently attending a French Immersion program in a private school. Can he/she/they transfer to French Immersion in a TDSB school?

If the child is attending a private school, he/she/they may be admitted to a TDSB French Immersion program associated with their principal residential home address based on two criteria:

- available space
- equivalency of academic background in French.

For more information about TDSB program models, please visit [French Language Programs](#)

Q5: How do I find my French Immersion(s) school(s) by address?

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To search the associated French Immersion school by address, enter the address in [Find My Designated French School](#) and refer to the resulting schools indicated for either Early French Immersion or Middle French Immersion.

Please note that pathways are subject to change based on operational/program needs. The [Board's Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy](#) contains studies that may impact current pathways.