



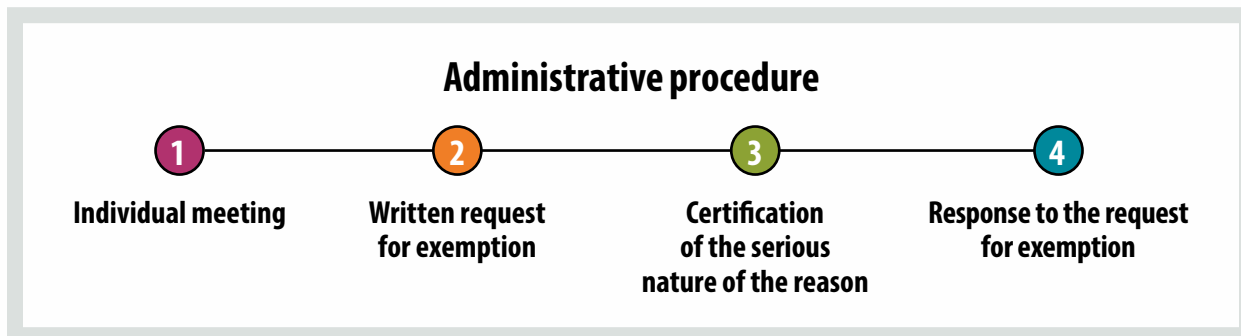
Sexuality education

Request for exemption from sexuality education

Administrative procedure for parents

Sexuality education content is compulsory in elementary and secondary schools for all students in Québec. However, the Minister provides conditions for exemption if one of the following reasons exists:

- The activity or content could cause the student psychological harm.
- The activity or content could infringe upon a freedom or fundamental right guaranteed by the Canadian and Québec charters.



1 Individual meeting

You must make an appointment to meet with the school principal or designated person in order to voice your concerns and obtain information about the content and educational aims. If you still wish to obtain an exemption after this meeting, the principal will ask you to submit a written request accordingly.

2 Written request for exemption¹

The written request must be submitted to the school principal before the activity identified in the request is carried out. The time frame must be sufficient to allow the principal to process the request for exemption and obtain the necessary clarifications, if required.

A written request is made for a single child and must indicate:

- the sexuality education content in question
- the reason for the request, specifying the harm, right or freedom in question
- clarifications regarding the psychological harm that may be caused by the content in question or how this content might infringe upon your child's freedom or fundamental right

Every written request concerning content must specify the reason and be explained according to the clarifications requested.

The request for exemption cannot be made for all sexuality education content or for more than one school year.

1. If you are unable to make a written request, other terms may be agreed upon with the school.

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3 Certification of the serious nature of the reason

Once the written request contains all the information required for the administrative procedure and is submitted to the school principal, the serious nature of the reason must be certified by one of the following:

An opinion produced by a professional within the meaning of the *Professional Code*, who is competent in the matter, which confirms the risk of psychological harm to your child

OR

An affidavit² signed by a person authorized to administer oaths (Commissioner for Oaths, lawyer, notary, etc.) and which attests that the content identified in your exemption request infringes upon your child's freedom or fundamental right, or might cause him or her psychological harm.

Verification of the serious nature of the reason

In accordance with the *Education Act*, it is the responsibility of the school principal to process each exemption request and assess whether or not the exemption conditions provided by the Minister are being met.

4 Response to the request for exemption

The principal will respond to your exemption request.

The exemption request is **granted**

If the conditions have been respected and the serious nature of the reason has been established by the school principal, the exemption will be granted, and you will be informed of when the content in question will be covered.

The exemption request is **refused**

The sexuality education content will remain compulsory in accordance with the *Education Act*.

2. For more information about the Commissioners for Oaths appointed by the Minister of Justice as well as their contact information, or for a template of a declaration under oath, go to: www.assermentation.justice.gouv.qc.ca.

We invite you to consult the sexuality education content and educational aims by referring to the website of the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur at the following address:

www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/teachers/dossiers/sexuality-education/