

Draft Regulations

Draft Regulation

Professional Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26)

Optometrists

— Equivalence standards for the issue of a permit — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation amending the Regulation respecting equivalence standards for the issues of a permit by the Ordre des optométristes du Québec, adopted by the Bureau of the Ordre des optométristes du Québec, may be submitted to the government, which may approve it, with or without amendment, after a period of 45 days starting with the date of this publication has expired.

According to the Ordre des optométristes du Québec, the purpose of the regulation is to update the equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre to reflect the changes made in the doctoral program in optometry at the Université de Montréal, which allows access to the permit issued by the Ordre.

The Ordre does not anticipate that the regulation will have any impact on businesses, including small and medium size businesses.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting M^{re} Geneviève Anouck Labbé, Assistant to the Executive Director, Ordre des optométristes du Québec, 1265, rue Berri, bureau 700, Montréal (Québec) H2L 4X4; tel.: (514) 499-0524; fax: (514) 499-1051.

Any person wishing to make comments is asked to send them, before this period expires, to the Chairman of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3. Comments will be conveyed by the Office to the minister responsible for the application of the professional laws; they may also be sent to the professional order that has adopted the regulation as well as to any interested persons, departments and agencies.

GAÉTAN LEMOYNE,
*Chairman of the Office des
professions du Québec*

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre des optométristes du Québec*

Professional code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26, s. 93, par. c)

1. The Regulation respecting equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre des optométristes du Québec is hereby amended via the replacement of article 7 with the following:

“7. A person holding a diploma in optometry issued by an educational institution outside Québec shall be granted a diploma equivalence if the diploma was obtained upon completion of university studies comprising the equivalent of 197 credits, 169 of which shall be apportioned as follows:

1° 50 credits in biological and biomedical sciences, pertaining in particular to human and ocular anatomy, general and ocular histology, general and ocular physiology, general and ocular pharmacology, general and ocular pathology and microbiology;

2° 16 credits in optics, pertaining in particular to geometric, physical, and ophthalmic optics;

3° 15 credits in vision science;

4° 52 credits in optometric science, pertaining in particular to general optometry, orthoptics, contact lenses and low vision;

5° 36 credits obtained following a clinical training period, particularly in general optometry, orthoptics, contact lenses and low vision.

Each credit shall represent 15 hours of attendance in class or 45 hours worked in the course of a training period.”

* The Regulation respecting equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre des optométristes du Québec approved by Order in Council 452-99 of April 21, 1999 (1999, G.O. 2, 1645) has not been amended since that time.

2. This regulation shall come into force on the fifteenth day following its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

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Draft Regulation

Supplemental Pension Plans Act
(R.S.Q., c. R-15.1)

Certain categories of pension plans — Exemption from the application of the Act — Amendments

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the “Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the exemption of certain categories of pension plans from the application of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act”, the text of which appears below, may be made by the government upon the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft regulation is intended to facilitate the establishment of pension plans on the initiative of workers’ associations. To this end, it defines the characteristics of a new category of defined benefit pension plans, called “member-funded pension plans”, which it exempts from the application of several provisions of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act. The draft regulation provides that the funding of these plans is, except for the required employer contribution, charged to the active plan members. It also imposes some specific obligations on pension plans in this category that are related, notably, to plan funding and the payment of members’ and beneficiaries’ benefits, with a view to protecting the members’ and beneficiaries’ rights.

Further information may be obtained from Mr. Michel Groulx, Régie des rentes du Québec, Place de la Cité, 2600, boulevard Laurier, Sainte-Foy (Québec) G1V 4T3 (tel.: (418) 657-8732, fax: 659-8985, e-mail: michel.groulx@rrq.gouv.qc.ca).

Any person having comments to make on this matter is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the period mentioned above, to Mr. Pierre Prémont, President and General Manager of the Régie des rentes du Québec, Place de la Cité, 2600, boulevard Laurier, 5^e étage, Sainte-Foy (Québec) G1V 4T3. Comments will be

forwarded by the Régie to the Minister of Employment, Social Solidarity and Family Welfare, who is responsible for the application of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act.

CLAUDE BÉCHARD,
*Minister of Employment, Social Solidarity
and Family Welfare*

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the exemption of certain categories of pension plans from the application of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act*

Supplemental Pension Plans Act
(R.S.Q., c. R-15.1, s. 2, 2nd para.)

1. The title of the Regulation respecting the exemption of certain categories of pension plans from the application of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act is amended, in the English version, by inserting, after the word “application”, the words “of provisions”.

2. Section 38 of the Regulation is amended, in the English version, by replacing the words “constituting optional ancillary contributions” with the words “constituting optional ancillary benefits”.

3. The Regulation is amended by adding the following division after section 47:

“DIVISION IX MEMBER-FUNDED PENSION PLANS

§1. *General provisions*

48. This division refers to a pension plan called a “member-funded pension plan”, which has the following characteristics:

(1) it is a contributory pension plan and either a defined benefit plan or a defined benefit-defined contribution plan;

(2) it came into effect after (*insert here the date of coming into force of this Regulation*);

* The last amendments to the Regulation respecting the exemption of certain categories of pension plans from the application of the Supplemental Pension Plans Act, approved by Order in Council 1160-90, dated 8 August 1990 (*G.O.* 1990, 2, 2333), were made by the regulation made by Order in Council 436-2004, dated 6 May 2004 (*G.O.* 2004, 2, 1615). For the preceding amendments, see *Tableau des modifications et Index sommaire*, Éditeur officiel du Québec, 2004, updated to 1 March 2004.