

21. The following is added after section 10.03:

“**10.04.** An employer cannot require an amount of money from an employee to pay for expenses related to the operations and mandatory employment-related costs of the enterprise.”

22. The title of Division 11.00 is amended by adding “AND ADAPTED EQUIPMENT” at the end.

23. Section 11.01 is amended by adding the following at the end:

“Where required for the tasks, the employer provides adapted equipment, including protective footwear, stripping boots or shoe cover. The employer must pay the cost of adapted equipment and replace it, if necessary.”

24. Section 11.02 is amended by adding “and adapted equipment” after “special clothing”.

25. The following is added after section 11.03:

**“DIVISION 11.100
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

11.101 The duration of use of a backpack vacuum cleaner is limited to a maximum of 3 hours per working day, but cannot exceed more than 2 consecutive hours. When the duration of use of a backpack vacuum cleaner exceeds 2 hours in a working day, the employee must interrupt the task for a period of at least 60 consecutive minutes.”

26. The following is added after section 12.02:

“**12.02.1.** The indemnities paid under the sixth paragraph of section 9.06 or the third paragraph of section 9.09 are deducted from the employee’s accumulated leave hour credits.

However, if the indemnities are paid to the employee when he has not yet acquired regular status, or when the balance of his leave credit is insufficient or zero, they are deducted from the leave hour credit subsequently accumulated by the employee.

Despite the foregoing, no employer may require or obtain by any other means the reimbursement of the indemnities paid to the employee during the year under the sixth paragraph of section 9.06 or the third paragraph of section 9.09 when the employee has not yet acquired regular status, or when the balance of his leave credit is insufficient or zero, on the ground that the indemnities could not be reimbursed under the second paragraph of this section.”

27. Despite the first paragraph of section 6.105, the employer has 6 months as of (insert the date of coming into force of this Decree) to have his employees under 71 years of age, already in his employ and who have not already done so on that date, complete, date and sign the group retirement plan enrolment form.

28. This Decree comes into force on the day of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104948

Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 387-2021, 24 March 2021

An Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses
(chapter A-13.3)

Interest rate to be applied to certain measures provided for in the Act and financial assistance for education expenses owing to the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 years of allocation

Regulation respecting the interest rate to be applied to certain measures provided for in the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses and the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses owing to the COVID-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 years of allocation

WHEREAS, under subparagraphs 14 and 15 of the first paragraph of section 57 of the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses (chapter A-13.3), the Government may, by regulation, on the recommendation of the Minister of Higher Education and after consultation with the Minister of Education for matters related to a level of education under the latter’s jurisdiction, and for each financial assistance program, unless otherwise indicated,

—fix the rate of interest to be applied to the balance of a guaranteed loan and the terms and conditions of payment of interest to the financial institution;

—prescribe the terms and conditions of repayment of a guaranteed loan, require the capitalization of the interest accrued for any period determined by the Government and provide for the cases where a borrower is in default and the consequences of the default;

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 90 of the Act respecting the Ministère de l’Enseignement supérieur, de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie (chapter M-15.1.0.1), the Minister of Higher

Education, after consulting with the Minister of Education when the matter relates to a level of education within that Minister's jurisdiction, must seek the advice of the Comité consultatif sur l'accessibilité financière aux études on any draft regulation respecting the financial assistance programs established by the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 177-2020 dated 13 March 2020, the Government declared a public health emergency and took certain measures to protect the health of the population;

WHEREAS, under section 12 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), a proposed regulation may be made without having been published if the authority making it is of the opinion that the urgency of the situation requires it;

WHEREAS, under section 13 of that Act, the reason justifying the absence of such publication must be published with the regulation;

WHEREAS, under section 18 of that Act, a regulation may come into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or between that date and the date applicable under section 17 where the authority that has made it is of the opinion that the urgency of the situation requires it and the reason justifying such coming into force must be published with the regulation;

WHEREAS the Government is of the opinion that the urgency owing to the following circumstances justifies the absence of prior publication and such coming into force of the Regulation respecting the interest rate to be applied to certain measures provided for in the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses and the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses owing to the Covid-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 years of allocation:

— the economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting lay-offs and the difficulty for some borrowers to fulfil their obligations with respect to the repayment of their student debts require the implementation of the measure as soon as 1 April 2021;

— the federal government announced similar measures applicable to Canadian borrowers, to be implemented in April 2021;

WHEREAS the Minister of Education has been consulted in accordance with the first paragraph of section 57 of the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses;

WHEREAS the Comité consultatif sur l'accessibilité financière aux études has given its advice;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Higher Education:

THAT the Regulation respecting the interest rate to be applied to certain measures provided for in the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses and the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses owing to the Covid-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 years of allocation, attached to this Order in Council, be made.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

Regulation respecting the interest rate to be applied to certain measures provided for in the Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses and the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses owing to the Covid-19 pandemic for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 years of allocation

An Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses
(chapter A-13.3, s. 57, 1st par., subpars. 14 and 15)

DIVISION I
GENERAL

1. The Minister pays to the financial institution, on behalf of the borrower, the interest on the balance of the guaranteed loan and any capitalized interest, accrued during the period beginning on 1 April 2021 and ending on 31 March 2022, at the rate provided for in section 73 of the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses (chapter A-13.3, r. 1).

2. A borrower who wishes to reduce the payments applicable to the repayment of the balance of the borrower's guaranteed loan for the period referred to in section 1 from the amount of interest paid by the Minister under that section must apply to the financial institution. Failing such application, the amount of the interest paid by the Minister is deducted from the balance of the principal of the borrower's guaranteed loan.

DIVISION II
FINAL

3. This Regulation applies despite any inconsistent provision of the Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses.

4. This Regulation comes into force on 1 April 2021.

104954

M.O., 2021

Order number 2021-006 of the Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration dated 18 March 2021

Québec Immigration Act
(chapter I-0.2.1)

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals

THE MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, FRANCIZATION AND INTEGRATION,

CONSIDERING that section 26 of the Québec Immigration Act (chapter I-0.2.1) provides that the Government may, by regulation, determine that achieving a score obtained by applying a selection grid is one of the selection conditions referred to in section 9 of the Act and that such a grid may include selection factors and criteria such as training, work experience and knowledge of French;

CONSIDERING that section 27 of the Act provides that the weighting of the selection criteria referred to in section 26, the passing score and, as applicable, the cut-off score for a selection criterion are set by ministerial regulation;

CONSIDERING that the first paragraph of section 104 of the Act provides that a regulation made under section 27 is not subject to the publication requirement set out in section 8 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1) and, despite section 17 of that Act, comes into force on the date of its publication of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or any later date set in the regulation;

CONSIDERING that section 106 of the Act provides that a regulation made under the Act may apply to an application according to the date on which it was filed or to the application examination stage and may apply to an expression of interest according to the date on which it was submitted;

CONSIDERING that the Regulation to amend the Québec Immigration Regulation made under Order in Council 282-2021 dated 17 March 2021 comes into force on 24 March 2021;

CONSIDERING that it is expedient to harmonize the Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals (chapter I-0.2.1, r. 4) with the amendments made to the Québec Immigration Regulation (chapter I-0.2.1, r. 3);

CONSIDERING that it is expedient to amend the Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals;

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

The Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals, attached to this Order, is hereby made.

Montréal, 18 March 2021

NADINE GIRAULT,
Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals

Québec Immigration Act
(chapter I-0.2.1, ss. 27 and 106)

1. The Regulation respecting the weighting applicable to the selection of foreign nationals (chapter I-0.2.1, r. 4) is amended at the end of Schedule B by replacing “94” under “MAXIMUM” for the number of points for the applicant with or without spouse or de facto spouse by “89”.

2. Schedule C is amended by replacing “ENTREPREURSHIP” in the title “INNOVATION – ENTREPREURSHIP”, by “ENTREPRENEURSHIP”.

3. Schedule D is amended

(1) by striking out “Cut-off score” in Factors 1, 9, 10 and 13;

(2) by striking out Factor 11;

(3) by striking out the “INNOVATION – ENTREPREURSHIP” section;

(4) by replacing, in the “SELECTION” section,

(a) under “PASSING SCORE” for the number of points for the applicant with or without spouse or de facto spouse, “81” by “51”;

(b) under “MAXIMUM” for the number of points for the applicant with or without spouse or de facto spouse, “125” by “95”.