

Ordre professionnel des diététistes du Québec

APPLICATION FOR THE OPDQ LICENSE BY MUTUAL RECOGNITION

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR APPLICANTS

November 11, 2010

1. Is the applicant a member of a Canadian college of dietitians?
 - a) If no: the applicant is not eligible for the OPDQ license.
 - b) If yes: go to question 2.

2. Does the applicant fall under one of the categories described below as to his knowledge of the French language, pursuant to the Quebec French Language Charter? That is:
 - a) Has the applicant completed at least three years of full-time secondary or post-secondary education in French?
If yes: the applicant is eligible for the OPDQ license. If no:
 - b) Has the applicant successfully passed the French first language exam of the 4th or 5th year of secondary school?
If yes: the applicant is eligible for the OPDQ license. If no:
 - c) Has the applicant obtained a Quebec secondary school diploma after the 1985-1986 school year?
If yes: the applicant is eligible for the OPDQ license. If no: see below.

An applicant who answers no to the questions a) to c) above must obtain a certificate from the *Office québécois de la langue française* (hereafter referred to as the “Office”). This certificate is issued after successfully passing the exams of the *Office*.

3. Does the applicant hold a diploma in nutrition obtained outside Quebec?
 - a) If yes, the applicant is eligible to register for the French exam with the *Office*. On the other hand, OPDQ can issue a temporary license by mutual recognition, i.e. a license granting the applicant a full right to practice but valid for one year only; in the meantime, the applicant must obtain the certificate from the *Office*.

The license is renewable up to a maximum of three times upon authorization of the *Office*, should the public’s best interest require it. For each renewal, therefore every year, the applicant must sit the exams held in compliance with government by-laws.

This means that, in principle and if the *Office* grants authorization, the applicant has four years to obtain his French language certificate and is required to sit the exams every year. The applicant must complete the procedure himself with the *Office*, not OPDQ.

When the applicant obtains his certificate, OPDQ issues him a regular license. Should the applicant still not pass the exams of the Office after the four-year period, he will become ineligible for the exams and OPDQ will not be able to renew his temporary license nor issue a regular license.

- b) Has the applicant completed his entire pre-university education in a language other than French but holds a Quebec diploma in nutrition from a school where English is the language of instruction? (e.g. McGill University)

If yes, the applicant had two years before obtaining his diploma to prove the *Office québécois de la langue française* that he has sufficient knowledge of the official language. The university provides all the required information in due time. Should the applicant fail to provide this proof (i.e. during his studies), he becomes ineligible for the exams of the *Office* and therefore, OPDQ cannot issue any type of license whatsoever.

4. Applicants must be aware and understand that the Quebec government imposes these requirements, **not OPDQ**.
5. Applicants must be aware and understand that they must retain their membership with their provincial college of origin as long as they do not hold the OPDQ **regular license** (therefore, even while holding an OPDQ temporary license pending the certificate from the *Office québécois de la langue française*).