



QMJHL FOUNDATION EDUCATION POLICY 2023 | 2024

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2023 QMJHL
Scholastic Player & Academic Advisor

MY QMJHL, MY SCHOOL OF LIFE!





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The background of the page is a photograph of a library. On the left, there are tall bookshelves filled with books. In the center and right, there is a large study table where several people are sitting and working. One person is using a laptop, and another is looking at a tablet. The room has large windows on the right side, letting in natural light.

ARTICLE 1 **STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE**

The whole purpose of the League and its teams is to participate in the development of young players aged from sixteen to twenty, and to make them progress towards the highest levels of professional hockey.

The League and its teams must make sure that the player benefits from an optimum development and protect his integrity related to ability and physical and mental condition, and continue top-quality academic education that will allow the player to go on studying normally after his hockey years in the QMJHL.

The optimum development of the players is guided by the commitment of our elite professionals in the fields of coaching, training, physical conditioning, diet, sports therapy and educational supervision. This allows the players to benefit from a full, intensive and structured training program, a significant high level of competition and to maintain general education.

ARTICLE 2

THE MAIN RULES GOVERNING THE EDUCATION MANDATE

The following main rules governing the education mandate of the League and its teams must be interpreted and applied within the statement of principle described in Article 1:

2.1 Responsibility of the Club

The team is responsible for organizing players' education, and it must develop all necessary partnerships, with regards to the variety of its players' schooling options.

In order to ensure that players pursue their studies successfully, the team must:

- Ensure, before recruiting a player through a draft or a trade, that it has all the necessary resources to allow him to continue his studies;
- Ensure that academic support is offered in French and English so that adequate follow-up can be done in the players' two main languages of study;
- Give priority to register players for courses in class, when a local education institution can accommodate them. Distance learning courses should only be considered as a secondary option, with the exception of special circumstances;
- Ensure follow-up with the player until the end of the school year.

2.2 Responsibility of the League

Taking into account the special schooling context in junior hockey, the QMJHL must develop and maintain partnerships that will:

- Make it easier for distance learning, when necessary;
- Make it easier for the harmonization of the organization and the operation of involved educational establishments;



- Allow some flexibility for accommodation of special cases;
- Minimize the schooling problems that are inherent in the case of a player being traded to another team.

The League must also support the Academic Advisors' work, ensure the education program functions properly and follow up on the players' academic progress.

2.3 Responsibility of the Player and his Parents

The player's parents must support and encourage him to continue his studies. They also commit to collaborate with the team and the League to foster the academic success of their youth.

The player recognizes that being part of the league and one of his teams is conditional on the continuation of a program of studies. The player must take his responsibilities towards his education obligations such as to give his homework on time, to communicate with his teachers and to assure the follow-up of his student file.

All players should complete their studies in the academic institution where they registered at the beginning of the session or the school year. Any exception to this rule, including in the case of a player being released or traded, should be brought to the attention of the commissioner's office. The team must also fill out an Academic Responsibility Form and have it approved by a parental authority when the parents want their son to finish the session in a school close to their residence, once the team has been eliminated. All requests from parents must be reviewed by the Academic Advisor and the Director of studies of the education institutions and must be approved by the commissioner's office.

It is the player's responsibility to provide transcripts before the start of the following session even if he is not part of the team.

2.4 Schooling expenses paid by the Club

All educational follow-up expenses, school expenses, travel expenses, lodging expenses, school supplies are to be paid by the team. The team that commits itself to a player at the beginning of a school session (fall or winter) must maintain its commitment until the end of the session. The terms of reimbursement to the player are established by the team.

2.5 Schooling in the Education System of the Player Residency

The player must be enrolled in an academic program from the province (or country) where he usually lives in order to obtain a diploma recognized in his own province (or country). If there are exceptions to this rule, the player's parents must fill out and sign a form; the team must also explain to them the consequences which could ensue. Afterward, the form must be sent to the QMJHL to be approved by the commissioner's office.

2.6 Distance Courses

The player taking distance learning courses must be provided with appropriate monitoring by his team such as a place to work while being supervised, the necessary equipment to study and complete his assignments and one or more competent tutors to support him in his work. Courses must be completed within the required time.

2.7 The Player's Progress

The player's progress in school per session must minimally correspond to:

- Secondary / high school: Full course load (regular curriculum)
- Secondary / high school (distance learning): 2 courses and more
- CEGEP : 4 courses
- Cégep à distance: 2 courses
- Vocational training : 2 courses and more
- University : 2 courses



2.8 Education Support

Due to the schedule and travel requirements, the player ought to maximize the actual time spent in class. To that effect, the QMJHL strongly recommends that teams allow the players to attend courses during home games. A player temporarily away from school due to travel requirements or any other reason must be given the necessary support to make up for the courses missed.

2.9 Summer Courses

Summer courses are not compulsory but the player should understand their importance in order to keep up his progress in school or to make up for schoolwork in arrears. Education fees are to be reimbursed by the team which authorized the course.

2.10 Obligation to go to School

All players, except the international players, are required to take courses leading to a secondary (high school), CEGEP (college), university or vocational diploma. The international players must be registered for language courses, computer science courses or other, approved by the League. Any other training must be approved by the League.

2.11 Education Incentive Grant

In addition to the reimbursement of education expenses provided for in section 2.4, the player will be granted a scholarship to enable him to pursue his studies leading to a high school, college or university diploma in the amounts and according to the following conditions:

- For 16 to 19-year-old players inclusively, \$60 per week, for the entire period of time when the player is attending courses during the year.
- For 20-year-old players, \$150 per week, for the entire period of time when the player is attending courses during the year.
- The player must attend school according to the conditions of the QMJHL Foundation's Education Policy.
- The player receives his education incentive grant on a weekly basis based on the schedule of his school level.

- The club reserves the right to cancel part or all of the grant payment if the player does not attend classes regularly or does not meet the criteria of the education policy.
- One course cannot account for 2 sessions; the player will have to register for new courses in the fall session and the winter session.
- No additional amount will be paid for extensions of distance learning courses.
- The scholarship will be paid to the player who is taking summer courses authorized by his team for a maximum of 7 weeks. The grant will be paid by the team that authorized the summer course, upon receiving proof that the course was completed successfully.
- The payment of the 20-year-old education incentive grant ends with the last week of the winter session.
- Utility courses such as English, French or computer courses will be considered even if they do not necessarily lead to a degree. All other courses must be approved by the Director of Player Services.

2.12 Grant Program: Former Players

The QMJHL Foundation offers, to the benefit of the players, a grant program to support them in their studies after their years in the QMJHL. The player's effort and success in school during his years in the League will determine his eligibility for the grant program. The QMJHL Foundation's grant program is presented in Article 4 of this policy.

2.13 Individual School File

The team must maintain up-to-date individual records for each of its players that provide access to current courses taken, transcripts, and all relevant details concerning the player's academic progress.



2.14 Directives from the League

The QMJHL will provide guidelines at any time for the implementation of the present policy.

ARTICLE 3 **THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

The QMJHL ensures, through its Education Policy, to facilitate the academic progress of its players with the help of the Academic Advisors acting as representatives. The team is responsible for providing education to its players. The Academic advisor, named by the team, must work closely with the General Manager, the Coach and any other person among the team that is in charge of the education component in order to make sure that the players pursue their studies, in accordance with the QMJHL Foundation's policy. The main tasks of the Academic Advisor are as follows:

- Act as an advisor to the team management for all matters concerning the players' education, and mainly for the allocation of necessary resources in time, staff and money in order to carry out that mandate;
- Have the knowledge of the academic environment required to adequately advise the player in his studies, according to his profile;
- Collaborate with the school educational establishments, get involved in the process of the player's registration and act as an advisor to the player and his parents for the selection of programs or courses;
- Work with the player, his parents and his billet family in order to maintain the player's motivation for satisfactory school progress;
- Act as an advisor to the player who is invited to a professional camp in order to minimize any inconvenience that could affect his progress in school;
- Make sure that partnership agreements with appropriate local organizations are well established, maintained and managed;
- Monitor regularly the progress of each player and keep the parents informed;
- Keep a complete and up to date school file for each player and make it available to the QMJHL;

- Make sure that all needs for catching up or updating after unavoidable absences from school are met;
- Make sure that the players who are taking distance learning courses are well supervised, with a regular follow-up;
- See to the needs and monitoring of players presenting specific cases;
- If a player is traded, make sure to communicate all the necessary information regarding his school file to the Academic Advisors of other teams;
- Inform both the General Manager and the Coach about the school file of each player;
- Propose solutions and tools to improve the education program of the team and that of the QMJHL Foundation;
- Collaborate with Academic Advisors of the other teams;
- Fill out and submit on time all reports and forms requested through the software used by the QMJHL;
- Participate in all draft session, calls, meetings or videoconferences called by the commissioner's office, or his representative, for consultation, information and coordination purposes related to the application of the QMJHL Foundation's Education Policy.

ARTICLE 4 **QMJHL FOUNDATION GRANT PROGRAM**

A grant is an amount of money given to a student, former QMJHL player, in order to help him pursue his studies to obtain a diploma from a school establishment recognized by the QMJHL Foundation. This grant is subject to several eligibility conditions.



4.1 Eligibility conditions

Any player who has played in the QMJHL is eligible for the grant program if he meets the following conditions.

4.1.1 To have significantly pursued his studies

The player must have played in the QMJHL during at least one (1) academic session and have completed successfully the required number of courses he registered for.

- At secondary or high school level, the player must have completed successfully the courses outlined in the normal curriculum attributed to regular students if he attends classes;
- At secondary or high school level, the player must have completed successfully a minimum of two (2) courses if he is taking distance education courses;
- At CEGEP level, he must have completed successfully half of his courses, which corresponds to at least two (2) courses per session;
- At Cégep à distance, he must have succeeded at least one (1) course per session;
- For a High School or CEGEP diploma holder, he must have succeeded in at least one (1) university course.

For the purposes of reaching previous school objectives, summer courses taken at the major junior level in the QMJHL are evaluated as courses taken to complete otherwise incomplete sessions.

4.1.2 To be available to play in the QMJHL until his 20th year

Exceptions to this rule could apply and each case should be assessed by the commissioner's office. Among other things the player will remain eligible to the grant program if he agrees to go to his team's training camp and is not offered a contract, by that team or another team; it is not applicable to a twenty-year-old (20) player who, after having signed a contract, is released from his team during the Holidays, and has not received a contract offer from another team.

4.1.3 Delay to make an application to the QMJHL Grant Program

The player must have filled the grant application form and started his courses no later the fall session

of the third year following the last game he played in the QMJHL, and must be studying without any interruption.

4.1.4 To be accepted as a student in a recognized educational institution

The player must further his education in a recognized educational institution such as a university, a post-secondary professional or technical school, or a CEGEP.

4.1.5 Player playing in a professional minor hockey league

The player playing in a professional minor hockey league remains eligible to the grant program.

4.1.6 Criminal offence

A player convicted of a criminal offence, which allegedly took place while playing in the QMJHL, could be denied eligibility for the grant program.

4.2 Granting

4.2.1 Committee appointed by the commissioner's office

When a request for a study grant meets the requirements of the QMJHL Foundation Grant Program, it is analyzed by a committee appointed to this end by the commissioner's office.

4.2.2 Request to obtain grants

The player who wants to obtain grants from this scholarship program must submit a grant request to the Committee, by filling out the online form available on the League's website a theqmjhl.ca/scholarship. This grant request must be made before the end of his first year of the academic program for which he wishes to start receiving his grants. He must, at the same time, provide his study plan and provide, as soon as possible, the most recent transcripts of the courses he followed during his years in the QMJHL. After the deadline, grants requested cannot be given retroactively.



4.2.3 **Special Request**

The player who is asking for a grant, but who has not met one or more conditions due to a well-founded major reason, can make a special request that will be assessed by the Committee.

4.2.4 **New Request after the CEGEP**

The player who must go to CEGEP to finish his college course before enrolling in a university program must submit a new request to the Committee as soon as he ends his pre-university courses to eventually benefit from sums paid for university studies.

4.2.5 **Answer to the Requester**

The Committee will inform each grant requester of its decision as soon as possible and in writing.

4.3 **Grant allocation**

The player who qualifies for grants, according to the criteria presented in section 4.1 of the present Education Policy, may receive grants, as outlined by the following applicable circumstances: the player is allowed one (1) grant for each session he played in the QMJHL if he meets the criteria listed in article 4.1.1. The maximum amount of grants is limited to ten (10):

- To complete a general college degree (DEC): a grant in the amount of \$150 for each succeeded course up to a maximum of \$1050 per session;
- Technical college degree: for each session, a grant in the amount of \$150 for each succeeded course up to a maximum of \$1200 per session and an additional \$500 for the cost of equipment upon presentation of valid receipts.
- University studies: for each session a grant of \$600 per succeeded course, with a maximum of \$6000 per year and a maximum of 5 years. A university course is a 3-credit course; a course of more or less than 3 credits increases or decreases proportionately the amount of \$600;
- Vocational studies: for each session, a grant equivalent to half of the annual school fees plus \$800, for a maximum of \$2500 per session. The maximum number of grants is limited to six (6);

For the purposes of applying the present policy, a session is a period of time which lasts for approximately four (4) months.

4.4 Payment of grants

The grants will be paid as per the terms and conditions stated in the acceptance letter. The payment of the grants will be based on the courses completed successfully.

Depending on the player's educational path, the maximum annual amount may be modified in accordance with the program followed, without exceeding the maximum scholarship amount awarded. The grants are paid at the end of each academic session, following reception of the official transcripts certified by the education institution.

4.4.1 Summer courses

The students who will not have been able to take the maximum number of courses during fall and winter sessions will be able to request from the QMJHL Foundation that they be completed with summer courses followed in the same school year. The player must have filled the grant application form and started his courses. This will allow the students to maximize their grant.

4.5 Appeal procedure

The student who is refused a study grant or a portion of that grant or who loses his status of grant holder can appeal by writing to the commissioner's office by clearly explaining to him that the decision was not taken according to the QMJHL Foundation Grant Program, or that circumstances beyond his control kept him from meeting some of the conditions. The Commissioner or his representative will hear the student as well as the witnesses the student wishes to present. The commissioner's office decision is final.

4.6 Implementation

The applicable policy is the one in effect during the last session of the player in the QMJHL.



4.7 Change in the status of the grant holder

In order to ensure the efficient operation of the QMJHL Foundation's grant program, it is the responsibility of the grant holder to advise the Foundation of any change in his status as a student that could have an impact on his eligibility. Therefore, a grant holder who has stopped studying or who believes that he no longer meets the conditions of the program should notify the QMJHL Foundation within a maximum of two years, indicating the reason for such a cessation.

ARTICLE 5 A FEW PARTICULAR RULES

5.1 Selection and training camp

5.1.1 Decision regarding players going to CEGEP

At the team selection camp, the decision to keep a player going to CEGEP or to send him back to his lower level team must be taken as quickly as possible to allow the player to start his courses taking into account the starting date of the session of the CEGEPs. The Academic Advisor should work closely with Alliance Sport-Études to ensure an efficient follow-up of players' registration in CEGEP.

5.1.2 Expenses about updating

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a player who has been sent back to his lower level team after the beginning of his school year and who needs updating to enter his courses can receive such updating at the major junior team's expenses, according to the criteria set by the QMJHL Foundation.

5.1.3 Starting the courses

Players attending courses in a local school establishment must be able to start their courses at the very beginning of the establishment's school year. Players who take distance courses must start their school activities no later than at the beginning of September. The registration of a player invited to a professional camp must be made before his departure and cancelled afterwards if the player remains in his professional team. Whenever possible, the player should leave with a schedule, work to be done and he must bring the required school material.

5.2 Calling back an affiliate player

When calling back an affiliate player for a few games, the team must make sure it does not disrupt the player's studies, and it must give him all necessary support given the circumstances.

5.3 Player joining a team during the season

When a player joins a QMJHL team during the season, it is the team's responsibility to quickly register the player in an academic program from a recognized educational institution or to ensure a follow-up of the courses he has already registered for. The QMJHL must also be informed of the player's academic progress in a delay of 30 days following the signature of the Player Commitment form.

5.4 Playoffs

The team must take effective means during the playoffs to make sure that their school term will not be disrupted.

