

EFFECTIVE DATES:

The amendments to the *Charter of the French Language* came into force on June 1, 2022, the date Bill 96 received royal assent. However, some amendments have different effective dates, allowing enterprises additional time to adjust their practice. The following table outlines the special effective dates:

Note: For sections marked with an asterisk (), please consult [transitional provisions](#) at the end of the document.*

Amendments	Description	Bill 96	Effective Date
FUNDAMENTAL LANGUAGE RIGHTS			
Section 6.1	Right to learn French for Québec residents	4	June 1, 2023
THE LANGUAGE OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE COURTS			
*Section 9	Obligation for legal persons to translate pleadings drawn in English	5	September 1, 2022
Sections 10 and 11	Obligation for courts of justice to translate judgments	5	June 1, 2024
THE LANGUAGE OF THE CIVIL ADMINISTRATION			
Section 13, second paragraph	Prohibition from requiring an employee of the <i>Commission d'accès à l'information</i> or the <i>Commission de la fonction publique</i> to have knowledge of another language than French, with exceptions	5	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
Section 13.2, first and second paragraphs	Obligation for any agency of the civil administration to exclusively use French in written and oral communications, with exceptions	6	June 1, 2023
Section 15	Repealed. Obligation of the civil administration to draft and publish its texts and documents in French	7	June 1, 2023
Section 16	Obligation for the civil administration to use only French in its written communications with legal persons and enterprises established in Quebec.	N/A	June 20, 2022 (Order in Council 724-2022)
Section 16.1	Obligation for the civil administration to use French in its written communications with operators of an enterprise	8	June 1, 2023

Section 18	Obligation for any agency of the civil administration to exclusively use French in internal written and oral communications, with exception	9	June 1, 2023
Sections 18.1 and 18.2	Obligation for any agency of the civil administration to exclusively use French in internal written and oral communications, with exception	10	June 1, 2023
Section 19	Obligation to draft all notices of meetings, agendas and minutes of any deliberative meeting of the civil administration exclusively in French	11	June 1, 2023
*Section 21	Obligation to draft all contracts with the civil administration exclusively in French	13	June 1, 2023
*Sections 21.1 to 21.12	Exceptions to Section 21	14	June 1, 2023
Sections 22.2 to 22.3	Exceptions to Section 13.2	15	June 1, 2023
Section 22.4	Obligation for an agency of the civil administration to communicate exclusively in French with immigrants	15	June 1, 2023
Section 22.5	Additional exceptions	15	June 1, 2023
Section 26	Exceptions allowing English language school service centres to communicate in other languages than French	16	June 1, 2023
Sections 29.6 and 29.7.1	Right for any Canadian resident to pursue studies in French in Quebec and pay the same tuition fees as a Quebec resident	19	2023-2024 school year
Section 29.14 (general obligation)	Obligation for agencies of the civil administration, except for parliamentary institutions, to issue a directive listing all situations in which other languages will be used, when allowed	19	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
Sections 29.14 (obligation for specific ministers) and 29.15	Obligation for the <i>Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport</i> to make a directive, applicable to school bodies, listing all situations in which other languages will be used, when allowed Obligation for the <i>Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux</i> to issue a directive, applicable to bodies of the	19	September 1, 2022

	health and social services network, listing all situations in which other languages will be used, when allowed		
Section 29.14 (obligation for parliamentary institutions)	Obligation for parliamentary institutions to make a directive listing all situations in which other languages will be used, when allowed	19	The later of (i) 3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved, and (ii) the date on which the first French Language Commission takes office
Section 29.16 (general obligation)	Obligation for a government department or government body to submit their directives to the Minister of the French Language for approval	19	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
Section 29.16 (obligation for specific ministers)	Obligation for the <i>Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport</i> and the <i>Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux</i> to submit their directives to the Minister of the French Language for approval	19	September 1, 2022
Section 29.17	Right of the Minister of the French Language to issue the directive should the agencies fail to make them within the provided time	19	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
Section 29.17	Obligation of the Minister of the French Language to send a copy of a directive to the French Language Commissioner	19	The later of (i) 3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved, and (ii) the date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
Section 29.18	Obligation for parliamentary institutions to submit their directives to the French Language Commissioner	19	The later of (i) 3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved, and (ii) the date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
Section 29.20	Obligation for agencies of the civil administration to produce annual report of the directive's application	19	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved

Section 29.21	Power of the Minister of the French Language to verify compliance by agencies of the civil administration with their respective directives	19	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
THE LANGUAGE OF LABOUR RELATIONS			
Section 44	Obligation to attach a French version to any arbitration award related to a collective agreement	32	June 1, 2024
THE LANGUAGE OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS			
Section 51.1	Obligation to translate generic term or description on a product with registered trademark	42.1	June 1, 2025
Section 55	Obligation to provide adhering party to a contract of adhesion with the French version prior to concluding the contract in another language	44	June 1, 2023
Section 58.1	Exception to public signs and posters and commercial advertising obligation to be in French Obligation for outside premises to have markedly predominant French public signs and posters	47	June 1, 2025
Section 68.1	Obligation for outside premises to have markedly predominant French public signs and posters in certain cases	48	June 1, 2025
THE LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION			
Section 88.0.2, first paragraph	Not relevant	58	2023-2024 school year
Section 88.0.2, second paragraph	Not relevant	58	2024-2025 school year
Sections 88.0.3 to 88.0.11	Not relevant	58	2023-2024 school year
Section 88.0.12, except the second enumeration of the first paragraph	Not relevant	58	2023-2024 school year
Section 88.0.12, second enumeration of the first paragraph	Not relevant	58	2024-2025 school year
Section 88.0.12.1	Not relevant	58	2023-2024 school year
Section 88.11	Not relevant	62	June 1, 2023

AGENCIES OF THE CIVIL ADMINISTRATION TO WHICH THE LANGUAGE POLICY OF THE STATE APPLIES			
Sections 128.3 to 128.5	Measures necessary to remedy failures by government departments, government bodies or municipal bodies	73	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
BODIES IN THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES NETWORK, SCHOOL BODIES, AND BODIES OR INSTITUTIONS WHOSE RECOGNITION HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN			
Section 128.6, second paragraph	Obligation for an agency of the civil administration to send an analysis of its language situation within 180 days of its recognition withdrawal	73	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
*Section 128.8	Power of the Office to review the analysis and issue a certificate of compliance if all obligations are met	73	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
Section 134.4	Power of the Office to review the analysis and issue a certificate of compliance if all obligations are met	73	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved
FRANCIZATION OF ENTERPRISES EMPLOYING 25 OR MORE PERSONS			
*Section 139	Obligation of enterprises employing 25 or more persons to register with the Office and create a francization committee	81, paragraph 1	June 1, 2025
FRANCIZATION IN CERTAIN OTHER ENTERPRISES			
Sections 149 to 150	Power of the Office to determine annually the enterprises, with 5 to 24 employees, to which it will offer to implement the French language learning services provided by Francisation Québec	89	June 1, 2023
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FRANCIZATION PROCESS, PENALTIES, EXEMPTIONS AND FORMS			
*Section 152.1, second and third paragraphs	Prohibition for the civil administration to enter into contract with or to grant subsidies to enterprises to which the French language learning services were offered, whereby the enterprise either refused or failed to comply with the terms	93	June 1, 2023
FRANCISATION QUÉBEC			
Title II.2	Creation of the administrative unit of Francisation Québec	94	June 1, 2023

MISSION AND POWERS			
Section 160, fourth paragraph	Obligation for the Office and the French Language Commissioner to determine the indicators of the use of French in the public sphere by the Quebec population	96	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
Section 163	Obligation of the Office and the French Language Commissioner to establish research programs	99, first paragraph	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
COMPLAINTS			
Section 165.17, second paragraph	Obligation of the Office to send complaints concerning parliamentary institutions to the French Language Commissioner	107	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
Section 165.21	Obligation of the Office to produce a report each quarter on the complaints received	108	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY AND DISCIPLINARY MEASURES			
Section 204.29.1	Default by a municipal agency and right to withhold any subsidy by the Minister of the French Language	114	June 1, 2023
PROCEEDINGS			
Section 208.6	Prohibition from filing any pleading in contravention with section 9 (certified French translation attached to pleading for legal persons)	116	September 1, 2022
SCHEDULES			
Schedule I, paragraph A, second paragraph	Definition of “civil administration” and “semipublic agencies”	119	Date on which the first French Language Commissioner takes office
OTHER LEGISLATION			
*Article 2984 (CCQ)	Obligation to draft application for registration in the land register or in the register of personal and movable real rights exclusively in French	125	September 1, 2022
*Article 3006 (CCQ)	Obligation to add a French translation of any accompanying documents of an application for registration	126	September 1, 2022
Section 335 (Cities and Towns Act)	Public notices no longer need to be drawn up in English	137	June 1, 2023

Section 26 (Consumer Protection Act)	Similar changes to section 55 of the Charter (contract of adhesion)	151	June 1, 2023
Section 131.1 (Act Respecting the Legal Publicity of Enterprises)	Exception to the inspection and investigation powers of the registrar, in favour of the Minister of the French Language	153	June 1, 2023
Section 300 (Act Respecting the Legal Publicity of Enterprises)	Inspection and investigation powers of the the <i>Office québécois de la langue française</i> for compliance of this Act	154	June 1, 2023
Section 24.2 (General and Vocational Colleges Act)	Not relevant	143	2023-2024 school year

**Please note that the Charter of the French Language and its amendments by bill 96 apply notwithstanding sections 1 to 38 of the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms (chapter C-12).*

**Please also note that the Charter of the French Language and its amendments by bill 96 and have effect notwithstanding sections 2 and 7 to 15 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B to the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom).*

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS:

Amended section of <i>Charter of the French Language</i>	Effective Date for Amendments	Details of Transitional Provisions	Transitional Provision of Bill-96
Section 9	September 1, 2022	Amendments do not apply to pleadings filed before September 1, 2022 at a court office, at the secretariat of an agency of the civil administration that exercises an adjudicative function, or an agency of the civil administration within which a person appointed by the Government or by a minister exercises such a [adjudicative] function.	165
Section 21	June 1, 2023	<p>Amendments do not apply to a contract entered into before June 1, 2023.</p> <p>Section 21, as it reads on May 31, 2023, will continue to apply to contracts and other writings, that, after May 31, 2023, are related to a contract under 21.3, 21.10, 21.11, or to 21 itself.</p> <p>Amendments do not apply to documents sent to the civil administration for the purpose of entering into a contract with it or obtaining a subsidy or other form of financial assistance, or a permit or another authorization of the same nature, if the tendering or awarding procedure for the contract was in progress on June 1, 2023, or, as applicable, if the application for a subsidy or other form of financial assistance, or a permit or another authorization of the same nature, was sent to the civil administration before June 1, 2023.</p>	166, 167
Sections 21.3	June 1, 2023	Amendments do not apply to a contract entered into before June 1, 2023.	166
Section 21.9	June 1, 2023	*Amendments do not apply to documents sent to the civil administration for the purpose of entering into a contract with it or obtaining a subsidy	167

		<p>or other form of financial assistance, or a permit or another authorization of the same nature, if the tendering or awarding procedure for the contract was in progress on June 1, 2023, or, as applicable, if the application for a subsidy or other form of financial assistance, or a permit or another authorization of the same nature, was sent to the civil administration before June 1, 2023.</p> <p>*Amendments to second paragraph of 21.9 do not apply to documents that must be sent to an agency of the civil administration because of financial assistance or an authorization granted before June 1st 2023.</p>	
Section 21.10	June 1, 2023	Amendments do not apply to a contract entered into before June 1 st 2023.	166
Section 21.11	June 1, 2023	Amendments do not apply to a contract entered into before June 1 st 2023.	166
Section 128.8	3 months after the date on which the first language policy of the State is approved	<p>Amendments must be taken into account, even if they are not yet in force when carrying out:</p> <p>(1) [...]</p> <p>(2) an examination by the Office of the language situation, provided for in the first paragraph of section 128.8 of that Charter, of a body that sends the Office such an analysis; and</p> <p>(3) the development and implementation of a compliance program under the third or fourth paragraph of that section 128.8.</p>	183
Title II Chapter V Division II (heading)	N/A	The heading of Division II of Chapter V of Title II of the <i>Charter</i> is to be read, during the period from June 1, 2022 to June 1, 2025, as if “25” were replaced by “50,” therefore reading as “FRANCIZATION OF ENTERPRISES EMPLOYING <u>50</u> OR MORE PERSONS.”	184
Section 152.1	June 1, 2023	A contract may not be cancelled because the enterprise with which it was entered into is subject to the provisions of the first or second paragraph of section 152.1, where the contract in question was entered into before June 1, 2023. The same applies to a subsidy granted to such an enterprise.	185

Amended section of <i>Civil Code of Québec</i>	Effective Date for Amendments	Details of transitional provisions:	Transitional Provision of Bill-96
Article 2984	September 1, 2022	Amendments do not apply to any act that amends or corrects another act that was filed at the registry office exclusively in a language other than French before June 1, 2022.	196
Article 3006	September 1, 2022	Amendments do not apply to any act that amends or corrects another act that was filed at the registry office exclusively in a language other than French before June 1, 2022.	196