

Experiential work placement

There are three types of work placements within the Essential Skills for the Workplace Program:

Exploratory work placement

- In grades 10 and 11
- Duration from a few hours to one or two days
- To better understand a certain job
- To explore and confirm his/her life and career plan

Practical work placement

- It takes place in grades 10 and 11
- It lasts at least a few days
- It helps develop specific abilities within specific tasks

Work experience placement

- It takes place in grade 12
- It lasts about 4 months
- It ensures the student develops the technical skills of a specific trade

The school provides the employer with a notebook which contains a list of various tasks the student must perform to develop the skills required within that trade. This notebook helps the employer work with the student and make a judgment, at the end of the work placement, on the student's ability to perform the required tasks.



School and employer collaboration

The schools can't do this alone. They need the collaboration of employers to complete the learning that prepares students for the job market.

The employers contribute to the program by:

- allowing visits and meetings with students.
- accepting students for placement in their workplace.
- completing the documents provided by the school to record students' achievements and to respect Policy 307 - Experiential Learning from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
- taking on the role of mentor to the student.
- accepting to meet the person who manages the work placement at school and by contacting them as needed.



Essential Skills for the Workplace Program

Experiential Work Placement

Presentation opportunities

To help students better understand the reality of their work, employers can invite them to visit their workplace or meet them in the classroom to talk about:

- their company/organization;
- occupations practiced in the company/organization;
- what they are looking for in an employee, for example the qualities, the skills and the attitudes.



Description of the program

The Essential Skills for Workplace Program was developed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, in collaboration with the Department of Postsecondary Education, Training and Labour and various New Brunswick employers.

It allows each student who participates in the program to obtain a high school diploma and a certificate stating that he/she has acquired the technical skills of the trade of his/her choice.

It provides these students with the supports needed to build a life and career plan based on their interests and strengths, and to prepare them for the job market in a semi-skilled trade of their choosing.



Students who participate in this program

- are at least 15 years old.
- show an interest in the program.
- meet the selection criteria identified by the school team.
- are interested in doing activities that help prepare for the job market.
- are interested in learning experiences that promote preparation for the job market.
- are looking to enter the job market after high school.

Essential skills

The Government of Canada and other organizations have identified nine skills that are essential to every employee in the practice of his or her job and to every individual in his/her life:

- Reading text
- Document use
- Writing
- Oral communication
- Numeracy
- Working with others
- Thinking
- Digital technology
- Continuous learning

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has identified two other skills that are also important in the workplace:

- Motor skills
- Attitudes in the workplace

All these skills are developed and assessed during classroom activities.

Technical skills

In addition, students acquire technical skills related to their field of interest. They are developed and assessed when the student is doing his/her work experience placement.



Four pathways

The students who participate in the Essential Skills for the Workplace Program can choose one or more of approximately 90 trades within four major groups, including:

- Trades, transport and machinery
- Sales, services and office work
- Processing and manufacturing
- Natural resources and agriculture



New Brunswick High School Diploma

The New Brunswick High School Diploma is awarded to students who meet the requirements of one of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development programs, including Essential Skills for the Workplace Program.

Furthermore, thanks to his/her work experience placement, the student will obtain a certificate indicating that he/she has acquired the technical skills of the trade of his/her choice.