

Doing business in Québec



Things to know

CIVIL CODE

- Québec has a hybrid legal system — private law is subject to the [Civil Code of Québec](#), while public law is interpreted pursuant to the common law.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

- Québec has strong consumer protection laws, including rules that make it unlawful to include certain clauses in contracts with consumers and strong consumer warranties.

PROMOTIONAL CONTESTS

- Québec is the only jurisdiction in Canada requiring that promotional contests be registered.

LANGUAGE AS A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT

- Employers are prohibited from dismissing, laying off, demoting or transferring an employee for the sole reason that he or she is exclusively French-speaking.

FRANCIZATION PROGRAMS

- An enterprise in Québec which employs more than 50 employees must register with the provincial language authority and, at the option of the authority, implement a “francization” program.

OTHER LANGUAGE RULES

- The Charter of the French Language sets out detailed rules regarding the language of commerce and business (see [French language rules](#) for more information).

USEFUL RESOURCES

Government of Québec

- [Civil Code of Québec](#)
- [Charter of the French language](#)
- [Rules respecting publicity contests](#)
- [Publicity contest notice](#)

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- [Guide to doing business in Québec](#)

Things to do

- Ensure that your agreements, warranties and policies (including policies applicable to consumer warranties) are localized, taking into account the Civil Code of Québec, Québec consumer protection laws, and the Charter of the French Language.
- Do not make knowledge of the English language a condition of obtaining employment unless required by the nature of the position.
- Register promotional contests open to residents of Québec.
- Ensure that you comply with the rules in the Charter of the French Language that govern the language of commerce and business.

RELATED TOPICS

- [French language rules](#)



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