

## Information concerning the Expérience culturelle 12 (EXC 12) credit

French Programs and Services Branch of the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) offers to students participating in the Nova Scotia/Québec Student Exchange or the Explore program the possibility of receiving a grade 12 academic credit. This credit is called **Expérience culturelle 12 (EXC 12)** and is officially recognized for acquisition of the Immersion or Integrated French certificates and as a credit toward the High School Graduation Diploma in Nova Scotia. Students in French Immersion, Integrated French or Core French are eligible to obtain this credit.

**However, this credit is not automatically awarded following the completion of the program.** The participating student must have previously registered for the credit and have completed the required tasks and assignments **during their participation in the program.**

For transcript purposes, the EXC 12 credit is recorded according to the French Second Language program in which the student is enrolled in school, and the cultural program (NS/Québec Exchange or Explore) in which they participated:

EXC12EXPFR	Expérience culturelle 12 FRE EXP (Core French, Explore program)
EXC12NSQFR	Expérience culturelle 12 FRE NSQ (Core French, NS/Québec Exchange)
EXC12EXPIM	Expérience culturelle 12 IMM EXP (French Immersion, Explore program)
EXC12NSQIM	Expérience culturelle 12 IMM NSQ (French Immersion, NS/Québec Exchange)
EXC12EXPIP	Expérience culturelle 12 INT EXP (Integrated French, Explore Program)
EXC12NSQIP	Expérience culturelle 12 INT NSQ (Integrated French, NS/Québec Exchange)

- This credit requires the student's participation in and fulfillment of the requirements of either the Nova Scotia/Québec Six-month Student Exchange Program or the EXPLORE program.
- Although students can participate in both programs, only one EXC 12 credit will be awarded and counted toward the 18 credits required to obtain a High School Graduation Diploma.
- Only one EXC 12 credit will be granted to meet the 9 French Immersion or 6 Integrated French credits required to obtain either the Immersion or the Integrated French certificate.
- In Integrated French, the EXC 12 credit can be considered as a Personal Development and Career Education elective course or credit, but not as a Physical Education course or credit.
- EXC 12 can be used as an elective beyond the required 18 high school credits.
- **The EXC 12 credit should not be confused with an *external* Personal Development Credit. The Explore and the Exchange programs do not fall under the EECD recognized external programs linked to the external Personal Development credit.**
- The EXC 12 credit **may not** be substituted as one of the three compulsory high school French Language Arts credits.

- The EXC 12 credit application must be submitted by the school guidance counsellor, not by the student.
- This credit cannot be granted through the process of Challenge for Credit.
- This credit cannot be given retroactively to students who have participated in Explore or the NS/Québec Exchange, but did not apply for the EXC 12 credit before participating in either program.
- Students may participate in the NS/Québec Exchange while they are in grade 10, 11 or 12 (must be under the age of 18 prior to the end of the program). Students may participate in the Explore program following their grade 11 or grade 12 school year.
- Applications for the Explore program must be received or postmarked by February 28<sup>th</sup>. **Late applications will NOT be accepted.**
- Applications for the NS/Québec Exchange program must be received by March 31<sup>st</sup>. **Late applications will NOT be accepted.**
- The application for the NS/Québec Exchange can be found online at <https://fsl.ednet.ns.ca/content/student-exchange-program-quebec>.  
**\*\*Late applications will NOT be accepted.\*\***
- Official requests for the EXC 12 credit are made online and must be received by April 15<sup>th</sup> **preceding the student's participation in either the NS/Québec Exchange or the Explore program.**  
**\*\*Late applications will NOT be accepted.\*\***
- Students may participate in the NS/Québec Exchange or the Explore program without seeking the EXC 12 credit.
- All required documents (daily journal, portfolio, official documents by various host institutions, etc.) associated with the EXC 12 credit must be received at EECD's main office in Halifax by **the last Friday in September, following participation in the NS/Québec Exchange or the Explore program.**

For further information, please contact

Élaine Melanson  
 Director  
 French Second Language Division  
 French Programs and Services Branch  
 Education and Early Childhood Development  
 Phone: (902) 424-6646  
 E-mail: [Elaine.Melanson@novascotia.ca](mailto:Elaine.Melanson@novascotia.ca)