

## 3.5 Quebec (QC)

*Population: 8,263,600*

*Number of K-12 Schools: 3,113*

*Number of K-12 Students: 1,132,506*

*Number of K-12 E-Learning Programs: 4*

*Number of K-12 E-Learning Students: ~43,736*



### K-12 E-Learning Programs

During the 2014-15 school year, *Société de formation à distance des commissions scolaires du Québec* (SOFAD), a not-for-profit organization tasked with the development and production of correspondence distance learning materials that school boards utilize in their own district-based programs, served 29,386 students (i.e., adult students who are 16 years or older in the school year). SOFAD also provides an e-learning platform (i.e., EduSOFAD) that offers many of the courses online for the students who prefer to work online (which accounted for 1,957 course enrollments in 2014-15).

The Leading English Education and Resource Network (LEARN) is a not-for-profit organization that provides a variety of distance learning opportunities to approximately 8,500 English-language students from all nine English-speaking school boards in the province. In addition close to 36,500 students from across the province benefit from blended learning asynchronous services provided by LEARN.

The *Écoles en réseau* (ÉER) has 398 teachers in 250 schools (although over 500 participants including support staff, professionals, managers, etc.), and connected more than 5000 students through use of *Knowledge Forum* and various synchronous tools. Finally, the Beauce-Etchemin School Board offered 18 remedial online courses, as well as nine full-time online courses. During the 2014-15 school year more than 850 students registered for the services (remedial and full-time).

### Governance and Regulation

The *Education Act* in Quebec makes no reference to distance education and since 1995 school boards have held the primary responsibility for distance education policies and regulations.

However, private schools are regulated by a different Act (i.e., *Loi sur les établissements privés*), that contains provisions pertaining to online education. The Ministry has yet to approve an online initiative that meets the conditions stated in the *Loi sur les établissements privés*.