

Information Document on the Verification of Good Moral Character at the École nationale de police du Québec

Relevant Statutory Provisions

The École nationale de police du Québec (ENPQ) must ensure that every person who applies to the Basic Training Program in Police Patrolling (the Program) is of good moral character according to sections 4 and 6 of the <u>By-law to establish the Training plan regulation of the École nationale de police du Québec</u> (the Regulation) (CQLR, chapter P-13.1, r.4):

"4. To be eligible for the training program, an applicant shall meet the following admission requirements: (...)

2° be of good moral character."

"6. (...) An applicant is eligible for the training program following examination and investigation, provided he meets all the conditions prescribed in sections 4 and 5. (...)

The registration to the program may be suspended or cancelled at all times should the applicant no longer meet the admission requirements provided for in section 4."

Allegation, Investigation Against an Applicant or a Student

Where an applicant or a student is the subject of an allegation, a police investigation or a possible investigation, he or she has the duty to inform the Head of the School Organization and Registrar (for the applicant) or the Head of the program (for the student) as soon as possible, from the beginning till the end of their training. The ENPQ will verify all the criteria mentioned below for both the applicant and the student.

Concept of Good Moral Character

A person is generally considered of good moral character if he or she is honest, upright, observes the law and keeps good company. The absence of previous convictions is also considered in the analysis of good moral character, as well as the presence of a discharge or a pardon.

Current Criteria Used by the ENPQ to Verify Good Moral Character

Criterion 1 - Drug and Narcotic Test

The ENPQ has a "zero tolerance" practice concerning drugs and narcotics. Consequently, the ENPQ makes sure that this practice is followed by administering a **systematic drug and narcotic test** to all applicants to the program at the time of their medical examination. Furthermore, the ENPQ can require any police cadet to undergo a specific drug and narcotic test if it has reasonable grounds to believe that the "zero tolerance" practice is not respected during training at the school (subparagraph 7° of section 4 of the Regulation).

Criterion 2 – Sworn Statement

When they come to the standardized physical abilities test (2017 POLICE SPAT-ENPQ), each applicant must complete and sign a **sworn statement**. This statement comprises questions on previous convictions, if the applicant has obtained or not a discharge or a pardon, and if he or she is presently the subject of a police investigation or a criminal or penal prosecution (subparagraph 3° of section 4 of the Regulation).

Criterion 3 – Fingerprinting

During the 2017 POLICE SPAT-ENPQ, all applicants must provide their **fingerprints** to the ENPQ who will then proceed to their verification (subparagraph 6° of section 4 of the Regulation).

Criterion 4 – Verification of the Driver's Licence

When applicants have their fingerprints taken, the ENPQ also checks their **driver's licence** with the *Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec* to make sure that the licence is valid. This verification is also performed before the comprehensive examination, around the 12th week of the program (subparagraph 5° of section 4 of the Regulation).

Criterion 5 – Internal Investigation Procedure

In the event of an allegation against an applicant or a student, uncorrected repeated violations or a failure likely to lead to the student's expulsion, an internal investigation can be conducted by a person designated by the Head of the program, in accordance with the *Procédure d'enquête interne* (PROC 01-01).

Criterion 6 – Security Screening Civil Program

Finally, if the ENPQ has reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant or the student is not of good moral character, it may require that the applicant or the student be submitted to the **Programme civil de filtrage de sécurité de la Sûreté du Québec** (Security Screening Civil Program of the Sûreté du Québec). This investigation checks the information regarding the applicant's or the student's personality, his or her good moral character, schooling, professional skills, previous employments, previous convictions, credit standing and credit file. The fees are at the applicant's or student's expenses (subparagraph 2° of section 4 and subparagraph 2° of section 6).