

Note — Even though facilities are compatible, problems may arise when you return to Canada, if your child does not have the credits in Canadian studies required for post secondary school education in Canada. Here again, we stress the importance of early contacts with the Education Counsellor at The Posting Centre (ABMH).

Note — In some countries, the local curriculum may be lower than Canadian standards, in French and English as a second language, for example. Tutoring may then be helpful while abroad. Individual cases should be discussed with the Education Counsellor for pedagogical advice; and after approval by ABMA (the Benefits, Policy and Implementation Section), tutoring expenses may be reimbursed by the Mission.

Incompatible Facilities At The Mission

Your decision as to where your child will be schooled is more difficult when temporary separation will ensue. Where facilities at the mission are not compatible, the Department favours your child's attendance at a public school while living with relatives or going to a boarding school situated as close as possible to family and good friends. For most employees this means Canada, but arrangements in other locations may be more desirable. In either case, your education allowance will cover admissible education expenses plus limited board, lodging and costs of personal laundry and mending services up to the ceiling for public education in Canada or residential education in Canada as appropriate.

Note — The Posting Centre (ABMH) maintains a list of acceptable boarding schools in Canada and keeps personal contact with a few of them, especially in Ontario and Quebec. Do not hesitate to contact the Education Counsellor at ABMA for further information. ABMA can also give you the names of a few boarding schools abroad, but it is up to you to check out their quality. Employees should also note that FSD 34 does not cover strictly personal expenses, such as clothing and pocket money.

Shelter Assistance

Employees whose children are under 21 years of age and are continuing with full-time post secondary education in Canada are eligible to receive shelter assistance for their children of up to \$2,292 for the academic year, as of September 1, 1993 (FSD 34.06; 34.07).

Relocations

If you are relocated from a mission during the school year, FSD 34.10 ensures that you will continue to receive an education allowance for that child, and makes special provisions minimize increased education expenses resulting from your departure.

Note Concerning Separated¹ Spouses

Where an employee's child resides with a spouse who has chosen not to accompany the employee to the mission, educational allowances or related expenses may not be paid under FSD 34 without special authorization from the Treasury Board. Assistance may be available under Family Separation Expenses (FSD 15.34). Employees in this situation are cautioned to approach ABMA (the Benefits, Policy and Implementation Section) as soon as possible.

FSD 35 — Education Travel

FSD 35 is intended to pay the actual and reasonable costs of getting your child to and from his or her place of schooling when the normal Relocation Directive, FSD 15, or Family Reunion, FSD 51, do not apply. It is fairly straightforward and covers basically the same travel expenses as does FSD 15 with provision for an unaccompanied baggage allowance of 100 kilograms. Remember that a claim must be filed within 15 days of completing the journey.

One problem that does arise is the authorization for an escort to accompany the child at public expense. This is permissible in unusual circumstances, such as situations where educational facilities at the mission were incompatible and prior registration at the child's educational institution is not accepted and alternative arrangements cannot be made. Mitigating circumstances should be brought to the attention of ABMA (the Benefits, Policy and Implementation Section) whose prior approval is required in all cases.

¹ Legally separated or simply staying behind.