

Spousal Employment Counsellor. You may leave an up-to-date résumé on file, and fill out a spousal employment form so that your employment history can be entered in the Data Bank. Occasionally, requests are received for applicants from our files. For the most part, however, it is up to the individual to look for specific job openings. The Spousal Employment Counsellor can help with suggestions on résumé format, appropriate places to apply and give applications to the Public Service Commission.

Whether abroad or in Ottawa, be sure to send your current address to SERV so that you continue to receive "Direct Communication With Spouses" news bulletin.

1.3 Education of Foreign Service Children

The Department has long recognized that the rotationality of many of its employees depends to a great extent on the opportunities available for their children to continue in school without serious disruption. At headquarters, two areas are responsible for education issues: the Education Counsellor (SERV) located in The Services Centre, and SBM (Geographic Service Section) .

Education Counsellor

If you have school age children, or children who will start school while you are on posting, it is vital that you contact the Education counsellor located in The Services Centre as soon as you are offered an assignment and read the following explanations of the FSDs relating to education. It is extremely important to check out what educational services are available at the mission before accepting an assignment abroad.

The Foreign Service Directives attempt to provide the equivalent of an average Canadian public school education for children on postings. Children with special needs are not always provided with the formal education opportunities overseas that are available in Canada. For these very reasons the Education Counsellor, located in The Services Centre is responsible for providing counsel and guidance on educational programs, courses of study, and compatibility in school systems and ensuring that employees have up-to-date information on types of schools available in Canada and abroad. The counsellor will also coordinate the necessary arrangements with the mission for admission of children to the appropriate education establishments.

The majority of schools used by foreign service employees overseas are private schools that focus on an academic education to prepare a child for eventual university entrance. Few of these overseas schools have any form of technical education facility, so it may be difficult for children whose aptitudes are technical to be provided with educational facilities comparable to Canada's. However, before an employee refuses a posting due to lack of educational facilities, he/she would be well-advised to discuss the matter with the Education Counsellor. Since the education section of the mission reports usually cover general education matters, a special inquiry could be made to find out if such training is available at the mission.

In the Services Centre (SERV), the following resources exist in the Education Section of the documentation centre:

1. Microfiches on schools abroad.
2. Directories of French and English schools abroad.
3. Brochures and videos on residential schools in Canada and abroad.
4. The Report on Education in the National Capital Region.
5. Information on special needs programs abroad.

Education-Related FSDs: – Education Assistance at the Lycée Claudel (FSD 33), – Education Allowances (FSD 34), – Education Travel (FSD 35), and – Family Reunion (FSD 51)

FSD 33 – Education Assistance at the Lycée Claudel

The purpose of this directive is to provide, under certain circumstances, financial assistance to career foreign service employees and RCMP Liaison officers while serving in Ottawa/Hull, in enrolling