

Compatible Facilities At The Mission

Where facilities are compatible, you may already have selected the "right" school on the basis of the education section of the *Mission Report*. It is also essential that you discuss the matter with the Education Counsellor, especially if the child has special needs. The Services Centre (SERV) will send a message to the Mission to get things under way if an advance application is required.

Despite the fact that educational facilities at your mission are compatible, you may still wish to send your child to primary school in Canada or in a third country. In this situation, your education allowance is limited to the total admissible expenses at the least costly school on your mission's roster. This amount may be somewhat less than the "post ceiling" and may be NIL at some missions. It is payable in lieu of all other expenses to which you might have otherwise been entitled, including those for Education Travel and Family Reunion. This situation could wind up being very expensive so it is recommended that you examine the pros and cons very carefully before committing yourself.

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 Services Centre (SERV).

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 SBM (Geographic Service 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 Services Centre (SERV) 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 SERV for further information. SERV 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 \$2,386 for the academic year, as of September 1, 1994 (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 to minimize increased education expenses resulting from your departure.