



Education Policy Elementary and Secondary Program

Department of Education

The mission of the Odanak Band Council consists in ensuring the representation of members of the Abenaki Community of Odanak and promoting the preservation of their identity, culture and quality of life.

To do so, the Council seeks to provide quality services for youth, elders and for the entire community, according to the Band's resources.

The Council is committed to transparency and equity in its decisions, while supporting individual and collective autonomy to ensure the Band's future.

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1. Objectives Sought by the Abenakis of Odanak Council

- Promote, within the budget limits available and the established rules, the increase of the education level of Odanak Band members.
- Ensure that Odanak Band students receive the educational services to which they are entitled, while adopting measures that promote educational success and prevent school dropout.
- Encourage students who demonstrate a desire for learning a profession as part of the training, as well as those with a school profile which does not include any post-secondary program, in pursuit of vocational and technical training at the postsecondary level.
- Promote educational funding for students pursuing their studies on a continuous basis (regular elementary and secondary program).

2. Primary and Secondary Education

Funds are allocated primarily for the funding of pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary and secondary education for band members.

2.1 Eligibility

- Be a status Abenaki child or adolescent registered on the Odanak Band list and residing in Odanak.

2.2 Financial Assistance

For children enrolled in a public or private school recognized by the AOC (see list in Appendix 1), the Band Council shall cover the following fees:

Types of Fees	Students with permanent address:	In the community	Outside the community
Tuition fees invoiced by the educational institution		X	
Fixed allowance to help pay for certain school materials and supplies*		X	X
Fixed allowance to help pay for school clothes*		X	
Fixed allowance for the high school student for miscellaneous expenses*		X	

The Band Council also covers supervision fees during lunch hour at the school for resident students.

Subject to the funds available annually, the allowances granted as well as the terms of payment are determined annually by the Band Council.

2.4 Special Assistance Measures

Upon request, the cost for hiring a career counsellor (member of the order) may be incurred if the institution does not already offer this service.

2.5 Student Monitoring

If necessary, the person responsible for education follows up with the school for elementary or secondary school children. A confidential academic record is kept for each student, which includes the student's transcripts as well as proof that the student is on the Odanak Band list and resides in Odanak.

The individual responsible for education answers questions concerning education from parents and children; at the request of the parents, the officer may accompany them for meetings with school workers.

APPENDIX 1

List of elementary and secondary schools recognized by the Band Council:

<u>Elementary schools</u>	<u>Location</u>
École Maurault	Pierreville
École Vincent-Lemire	Saint-François-du-Lac
École Le Rucher	Saint-Sylvère
École Paradis	Baie-du-Fèbvre

<u>Secondary schools</u>	<u>Location</u>
École secondaire Jean-Nicolet	Nicolet
École secondaire La Découverte	Saint-Léonard-d'Aston
Collège Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption	Nicolet
Séminaire Saint-Joseph	Trois-Rivières
Collège Saint-Bernard	Drummondville