

CANNABIS-RELATED MEASURES PROTECTING YOUTH IN QUÉBEC



YMCA
Youth Cannabis
Awareness
Program

Programme de
sensibilisation des
jeunes au cannabis
du YMCA

CANNABIS REGULATION ACT

In addition to the Federal Cannabis Act, the goals of the Cannabis Regulation Act are to protect youth in particular and the public through preventing and reducing cannabis harm related to health and security.



LEGAL AGE IN QUÉBEC

21 is the minimum legal age to buy and use cannabis products. Youth under the age of 21 cannot enter any cannabis retail outlet. Purchasing cannabis for anyone under 21 could result in fines between \$500 and \$1,500, doubling for subsequent offenses.

PENALTY FOR UNDERAGE POSSESSION

A youth under 21 found in possession of under 5 grams of cannabis, or found giving cannabis to someone else, can be fined up to \$100.



LIMITING EXPOSURE OF CANNABIS TO YOUTH



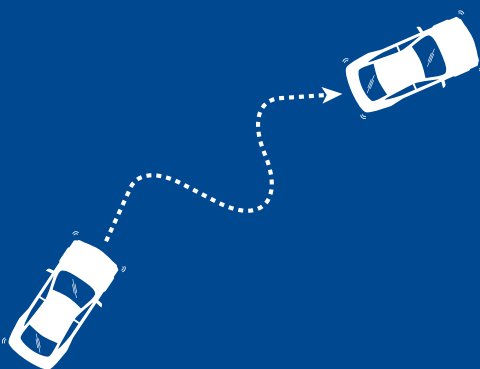
It is prohibited in Québec to consume cannabis in any public space indoors or outdoors. Cannabis retail outlets cannot legally operate within 150 meters of schools (in Montreal, the minimum distance is 250 meters). Caregivers working with youth may not consume cannabis during work hours or they risk facing fines between \$750 - \$2250.

PREVENTING CANNABIS IMPAIRED DRIVING

In 2017, 4.9% of Sec IV–V students in Québec reported driving a car within 2 hours of consuming cannabis. 12.1% of students Sec I–V had been in a vehicle with someone who consumed cannabis within 2 hours (CCSA, 2020)



MEASURES IN PLACE TO ENSURE SAFE ROADS IN QUÉBEC



A zero tolerance drug policy has been introduced for all drivers. Penalties include immediate driver's licence suspensions, fines, vehicle seizures, impaired driving programs, a criminal record or time in prison (if a second offence or the offence results in an accident).

Reference List

CCSA, 2020. *Provincial Patterns and Trends in Cannabis Use Among Youth: Quebec*.
Légis Québec, 2018. *Cannabis Regulation Act*.