

DRIVING IN QUEBEC

The *Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ)* is a provincial Crown corporation. It issues driver's licences and vehicle registrations. It is mandatory to have private car insurance in Quebec as the SAAQ does not provide insurance coverage for drivers.

Driver's Licence

If you have a valid driver's licence issued outside Quebec, you have six months from your arrival in Quebec to exchange it for a Quebec driver's licence.

Note that if your driver's licence issued outside Quebec expires before the six-month deadline, you must obtain a Quebec driver's licence before it expires.

To obtain your Quebec driver's licence, you must book an appointment at :



[Driver's Licence Issued Outside Québec – SAAQ \(gouv.qc.ca\)](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca)



At your appointment, you will have to provide the following **original documents**:

- Driver's licence from another province or territory of Canada
- Proof of Canadian citizenship or Quebec temporary resident permit
- Proof of residence in Quebec
- Proof that you resided in the province or on the territory that issued your licence if you have obtained it less than 3 years ago.
- Your driving record may be required.

If you have a **driver's licence issued abroad**, click this link to see if the issuing country has an agreement with Canada:



Canadian or foreign driver's Licence – SAAQ (gouv.qc.ca)

If you have any questions or issues regarding the exchange of your driver's licence, contact SAAQ to speak to one of their representatives :

 1-833-762-1502

Vehicle Registration

To obtain a Quebec licence plate, you must first have your vehicle inspected by a SAAQ agent to receive a valid mechanical inspection certificate.

The only inspection centre in Saguenay is in the Chicoutimi District:

Autolook inc.

162, rue des Routiers

Chicoutimi (Quebec)

 418-696-1352

You will then have to go to a **SAAQ** service centre and present the following documents:

- Driver's licence from another province or Canadian territory
- Mechanical inspection certificate
- Piece of identification with photo.

To find the **SAAQ service centre** or for more details concerning your driver's licence and vehicle registration, visit the **SAAQ** website:

 <https://saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/>

SAAQclic

You must create an online account to make all future requests/transactions:

 **SAAQ Online Services**

A first connection will instruct you on all the steps, starting with the creation of a Government Authentication Service account. The following information is required:

- Health insurance number
- Social insurance number
- Notice of assessment number
- Reference number on driver's licence or health insurance card

Within 10 days, you will receive a secret code by mail or by email to confirm your identity. You can connect directly to **SAAQclic** if you already use the Government Authentication Service.

If you don't have the notice of assessment number or either of the two reference numbers, you can request a confidential code which will be mailed to you. Once you have received it, you can continue creating your account.

Road Conditions

Visit the Quebec 511 website to find out about the state of road networks, warnings in effect, road works, rest areas, etc.

 <https://www.quebec511.info>

Winter Tires

Winter tires are mandatory from December 1 to March 15. However, since snow covers the road between November and April, it is strongly recommended to extend the use of winter tires.

Child Car Seats

Child car seats and seat belts **are mandatory**. For more details, visit:

 [Child Safety Seat](#)

CONTACT US:

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