

# NEWSLETTER 3

## Conditions for Obtaining a Permit with the *Ordre des thérapeutes du sport du Québec*

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To obtain a permit with the *Ordre des thérapeutes du sport du Québec*, two conditions will need to be fulfilled:

### **A) A diploma from a Quebec-based university in a program recognized by the *Ordre des thérapeutes du sport du Québec***

Currently, two programs are recognized by the Order:

1. Bachelor of Exercise Science with specialization in Athletic Therapy from Concordia University
2. DESS or *Diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées* in Athletic Therapy from the UQTR

*The UQTR program is still being evaluated by the CATA for the purpose of accreditation. We have included it here as an eligible program, in the anticipation and the hope that it will soon be recognized and accredited.*

### **Grandfather Clause**

All members in good standing of the CTSQ and CATA will be considered eligible to apply for a permit once the Order has been created.

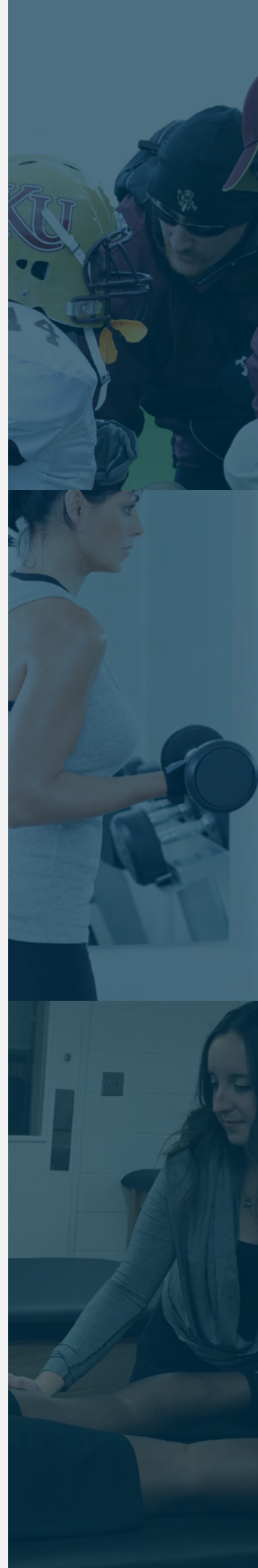
However, all applications will be examined by the Order's Admissions Committee to ensure that each complies with the conditions required to obtain a permit.

### **Conditional Admission and Evaluation of Equivalency**

All applicants who fail to meet the above-mentioned criteria may apply to obtain a permit and the Admissions Committee will complete an evaluation of equivalencies. In some cases, further training may be required before a permit can be granted.

These individuals may include:

- Members of the NATA;
- Former members of CATA/CTSQ who are looking to resume their practice.



## CATA Certification Exam

Successful completion of the CATA certification exam will no longer be considered a requirement to obtain a permit to become an athletic therapist **in Quebec**.

However, obtaining a license in Quebec will not automatically confer the title of **CERTIFIED** Athletic Therapist to permit holders. Rights to the title will be controlled by the CATA, who will be in charge of revising the admissions process for Quebec-based members. In addition, in Quebec, only members in good standing with the CATA who have been granted a permit from the Order will be authorized to use the title.

This entails three potential scenarios:

- Quebec-based athletic therapists who hold a permit from the Order will be responsible for enrolling for the certification exam just like other national members.
- The CATA will recognize the title of Athletic Therapist in Quebec as an equivalent and grant the title of Certified Athletic Therapist to members who hold a permit with the Order.
- The certification exam in Quebec will be administered either via the CTSQ, university programs (included in the curriculum), or the professional order.

These three scenarios will be discussed in more depth with the concerned parties.

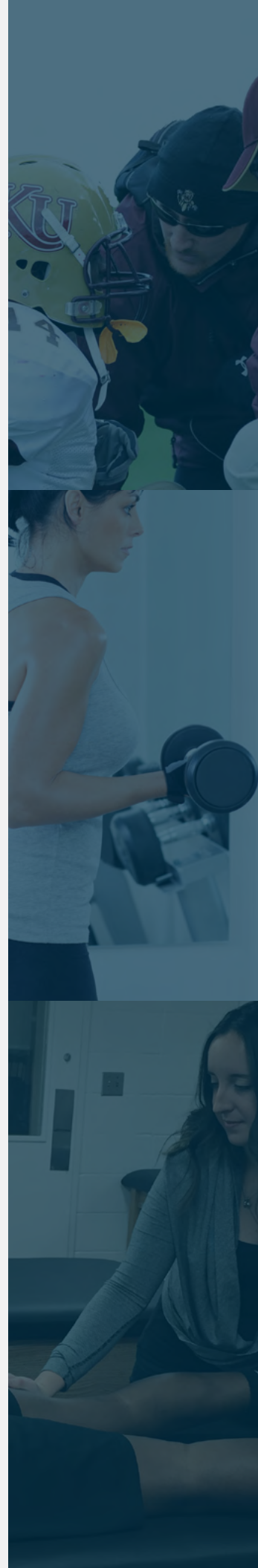
### **B) Fulfill the appropriate French-language requirements for practising athletic therapy in Quebec** ([Charter of the French Language](#))

WITHOUT EXCEPTION, all members of professional orders in Quebec are obliged to fulfill the French-language proficiency requirements set out under the law. This requirement is considered indispensable.

*Professional orders may only grant permits to individuals who have an appropriate level of proficiency to practice their profession in the official language. Orders are responsible for determining whether or not candidates are required to complete a French-language exam (Charter of the French Language, Section 35).*

*The Charter acknowledges that individuals possess this level of proficiency if:*

- *they have completed at least three years of full-time French-language studies at a secondary or post-secondary institution (high school, Cégep or university);*



- they successfully completed the “français langue maternelle” exam in the fourth or fifth year of secondary studies in Quebec;
- they are in possession of a high-school diploma that was issued in Quebec as of the year 1985-1986.

For all other cases, proficiency must be evaluated via a French-language exam administered by the Office québécois de la langue française.<sup>1</sup>

## Other Relevant Information

The Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) has published a variety of relevant documentation on this matter. We encourage you to consult the documents below to get a better handle on the ins and outs of this essential obligation of proficiency in the French language. Most of these documents are only available in French. We strongly suggest anyone who has questions about them to communicate with the OQLF directly as they are the resources upon this matter.

- [Le français, un tremplin pour exercer une profession au Québec](#)  
This document includes a summary of the law, the OQLF’s qualification criteria and a description of the qualification exam
- [Foire aux questions sur l’examen de français destiné aux candidats aux ordres professionnels](#)  
This document includes a series of frequently asked questions submitted by candidates preparing for this French-language exam
- [Ressources intéressantes pour améliorer ses compétences en français oral et écrit](#)  
This document compiles a series of useful links to help candidates who are preparing for the French-language exam
- [Information destinée aux candidats détenant un permis temporaire](#)  
This document explains how to renew permits and outlines the obligations of temporary permit holders
- [Chapter V of the Charter of the French Language](#)  
This excerpt from the Charter outlines the obligations of parastatal organizations regarding the official language in Quebec

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<sup>1</sup> Translated from *Le français, un tremplin pour exercer une profession au Québec*

