



THE TRIBUNAL ADMINISTRATIF DU QUÉBEC

CHALLENGING A GOVERNMENT DECISION

You can go to the Tribunal administratif du Québec to challenge a decision you received from a government body such as these:

- a public body, for example, the Société d'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) or Retraite Québec (pension board)
- a government department
- a health services institution if, for example, you're confined to a hospital against your will
- a municipality if, for example, the decision is about the value of your property

An independent, impartial tribunal

The Tribunal is completely independent of the government body that made the decision you're challenging. Your opinion is just as important as the government body's opinion. The Tribunal is impartial. It doesn't take sides.

The Tribunal listens to you and the government body. It analyzes the whole case and then decides whether to change the decision. If it does, the government body must obey the Tribunal's decision.

When to go to the Tribunal

Carefully read the decision from the government body. It says whether you can challenge it at the Tribunal administratif du Québec and how much time you have.

Usually, you have 30 or 60 days. Make sure you challenge the decision within the time allowed. If not, you might lose your right to do so.

IMPARTIALITY / ENGAGEMENT / RESPECT
COMPETENCE / INDEPENDENCE

HOW TO CONTACT US

Toll-free:

1 800-567-0278

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In Québec

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Our staff is available to help you
Monday to Friday,
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

How to challenge a decision

You must first make a written request to the Tribunal. Your request is called an application. Explain why you're challenging the decision, then sign your request. Attach a copy of the decision you're challenging.

The Tribunal's website has an application form called Motion Instituting Proceedings. The form has useful advice and tells you what information to give.

Send your request in person, by mail, email or fax. The Tribunal must receive your request before the end of the 30- or 60-day period. If you send it by mail, allow time for mail delivery.

Making a request is usually free, but there are fees to open your file in some situations.

Your file

The Tribunal sends you a letter confirming it received your request and giving you a file number. It also sends a copy of your request to the body that made the decision you're challenging.

Your file at the Tribunal is then officially opened.

Help from a lawyer

You can hire a lawyer, at your expense, to prepare your case and act for you at the Tribunal. Or you can do this yourself.

Depending on your financial situation, you might have a right to legal aid. To learn more, see the legal aid website at www.csj.qc.ca.

In some immigration cases and cases involving compensation for crime victims, someone who is not a lawyer can act for you.

