



UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

French as a Second Language (FSL)
DEL F – Diplôme d'études en langue française
2022-2023 – semester two

April 2023

Dear parents and guardians of students currently enrolled in Grade 12 Core French and French Immersion,

This letter will provide you with important information regarding the upcoming optional DELF testing for students in Grade 12 Core French and French Immersion in **semester two**.

Since 2014, over 600 students of French as a Second Language (FSL) have volunteered to participate in DELF testing within the UGDSB. This testing is an opportunity for students to demonstrate their learned language proficiency.

Challenging the DELF is not a required component of the regular FSL program, nor is it a replacement for the French program. Students who are in French Immersion continue to work towards earning their French Immersion Certificate, with the DELF being an additional option. DELF test results are not included in any course evaluation or final report card grades.

What is the DELF?

The *Diplôme d'études en langue Française* (DEL F) is an internationally recognized proficiency exam from France. It is based on the *Common European Framework of Reference* (CEFR), which defines language proficiency along six global levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, and C2. At each level, proficiency is measured across four competencies: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The French Ministry of National Education awards a diploma to successful candidates.

Why is the UGDSB offering this optional opportunity for Grade 12 Core French and FI students?

In the UGDSB, we value second language learning and want to encourage students to continue their French studies to grade 12. It is known that second language learning increases mental flexibility and improves problem-solving skills. Learning a second language is a lifelong process that develops pride, a sense of accomplishment and self-confidence. Because the DELF exam happens outside the regular classroom, candidates come away with a strong feeling of fulfillment and satisfaction for having demonstrated their ability to use their French in a new context and different circumstances.

It is important to remember that the DELF is an optional opportunity. It is comparable to doing a music examination, such as piano or voice, with the Royal Conservatory of Music. In both cases, whether for a DELF exam or a music exam with the Conservatory, it is up to the student to prepare through individual daily practice. And like the Conservatory music exams, the DELF is also open to the public at *The Alliance Française de Toronto*. For more information, and to register your child independently, go to their website:

<https://www.alliance-francaise.ca/en/exams/diplomas/delf-junior>

What are the benefits of challenging the DELF?

The DELF is testimonial to one's success and achievements in learning French. The DELF recognizes a learner's personal achievements to date on their individual path to French proficiency. The DELF is a positive attribute to a student's resumé, adding value to the many years spent learning French.

Who can take the DELF?

Only students who are currently enrolled in a Grade 12 Core French or Grade 12 French Immersion class are eligible. Students who withdraw from their French class may forfeit the opportunity to challenge the DELF.

What does the test involve?

The UGDSB offers students a choice of three test levels: A2, B1 or B2. Students should choose their level with the help of their FSL teacher.

The DELF has two components:

1. A written exam which includes oral and written comprehension and written expression
2. An oral interview which includes production and interaction

Test Level	Date of Written Exam	Time	Location
B2 (most difficult)	Monday April 24th	12:00 – 2:30	CW Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave E, Fergus
B1	Tuesday April 25th	12:00 – 1:45	CW Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave E, Fergus
A2 (least difficult)	Wednesday April 26th	12:00 – 1:40	CW Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave E, Fergus

The date and time of the written exam is determined internationally and cannot be changed.

The oral interview will be scheduled either prior to the written test or following the written test. Students will receive confirmation of the time of their interview through their teacher and/or through the email provided on the registration. Detailed information about scheduling for the oral interviews will be provided after confirmation of registration.

Note: Transportation to and from the testing site is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

How will the DELF be evaluated?

Each competency area is evaluated individually by a team of teachers who are trained DELF examiners who volunteer their time on the day of testing. Successful candidates must receive a score greater than 20% in each category, with an overall score of 50%. Evaluation is according to international standards set by the *Centre International des études pédagogiques*.

How can my child prepare for the DELF?

Preparation for the test is the responsibility of the student. The DELF is not part of the curriculum; it is an optional activity for students who are interested in seeing how their skills measure on a test that is taken internationally. Preparation specific to the DELF does not happen during French class. Of course, all skills learned throughout a student's schooling apply to taking this external exam. However, similar to a driving test, students need to familiarize themselves with the demands of the exam and prepare accordingly. Students have access to

online practice tests and samples of what to expect in each competency area. For more information, go to www.ugdsb.ca/delf

How can my child register for the DELF?

Registration is done online. Go to <https://forms.gle/73JVa75FW2ka15er6> and complete the online registration form. Registration is limited and restricted to students in their final Grade 12 French course. **Registration will be open February 27, 2023.** Payment is required in order to complete the registration. Confirmation of participation will be sent to the email address provided at the time of registration. **Registration and payment will be closed at 4:00 pm March 3rd, 2023.**

Further information will be sent to the email provided at the time of registration. Be sure to provide an email address that you check regularly so that you don't miss important updates about the testing.

Parents/Guardians will need to notify the school on the day their child will be absent for the test.

Is there a cost?

There is a fee associated with each test. The fee is \$40.00 and is payable to the Upper Grand District School Board. Payment is made on-line. If you require a payment plan or additional subsidy to participate in the DELF, please contact your child's school.

- Register here: <https://forms.gle/73JVa75FW2ka15er6>
- Make payment here:
<https://ugdsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/59510/64/False/True>
**When entering STUDENT NAME, please include the student's school abbreviation after their name ex.
Amy Smith ODSS

For more information about the DELF, including examples of various levels of the exam, please visit www.ugdsb.ca/delf, DELF au Canada <https://delf-dalf.ambafrance-ca.org/sample-subjects> and [Destination DELF](#).

Again, it is important to understand that the DELF is not a substitute for the Certificate of French Immersion Studies. Earning the French Immersion Certificate indicates that the student has earned 10 credits in French Immersion courses, equal to 3,800 hours of French instruction. This, in itself, is a remarkable achievement.

If you have further questions, you are asked to contact your school.

Sincerely,

Amy Turner

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