

Score calculation for SRAM's ranking list

This text is an excerpt from the Energizing studies brochure published by SRAM for Secondary 3 students and distributed in the schools for free.

How do cégeps evaluate students' records?

In order to evaluate applications, most cégeps produce a ranking list of applicants. The objective is to determine whether applicants are eligible, to compare them to one another and to select the best candidates for limited enrolment programs in cégeps where the number of applicants outnumbers the number of available spaces.

Ranking criteria are set by each cégep and may vary from one cégep to another. Essentially, however, these criteria tend to be the same throughout most colleges and can be summarized as follows:

- 1. Ranking is based on Secondary 4 and 5 grades from all courses
- 2. In addition to grades, average deviations are calculated. In each course, your final grade is compared to the group average. If your grade is above the average, the deviation is positive and you earn points in ranking. Therefore, it is important to have good grades and be above the group average as much as possible.
- 3. Then, your secondary school subject choice is taken into account. If you pass the Science Mathematics Option or the Technical and Scientific Mathematics Option, Secondary 5 Chemistry or Secondary 5 Physics, you will be given a bonus. Why a bonus? Simply to calibrate the grades of those who take these Math and Science courses. Statistics have shown that grades and deviations in these subjects tend to be lower than in other subjects. Moreover, students who choose these Science options often end up in stronger groups even in subjects other than Science. As a result, they obtain a lower deviation score. The bonuses for Science programs compensate for lower grades and deviations for at least equivalent efforts.
- 4. Some applicants obtain a secondary school diploma with 54 credits passed in Secondary 4 and 5, others with 64 credits, and others with 80 credits. Again, in order to be fair to those making extra efforts in secondary school, a bonus is given to all applicants who have obtained between 64 and 88 credits.
- 5. Finally, as part of the ranking, even though all subjects are considered, some are weighted more than others. These subjects depend on the chosen program. For example, if you choose the Social Science Program in cégep, History and Geography will be given a greater importance. English is in all cases very important for both your score and your ranking.

In short, to have a good ranking we recommend that you have the best possible grades and deviation scores in Secondary 4 and 5, obtain more credits in Secondary 4 and 5 than the minimum required and have good results in subjects related to your cégep program of choice. Moreover, if you succeed in electives such as Science and in a more demanding mathematical sequence, it will be taken into account in your ranking. You have to make a steady effort in school, particularly in Secondary 4 and 5. Successful secondary school studies pave the way to good college studies. Success comes with preparation.

You must devote time to your studies. It is clearly documented that the probability of a high average in college increases with the time you dedicate to your secondary school studies.