

# Special Points of Interest:

- To be eligible for the September payment, new students must have a valid intent filed by July 3 and be enrolled by August 2. Returning or transferring students must be reenrolled by August 2.
- Requests for missed payments must be made by
  June 1 of the fiscal year in
  which they are due.

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# FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

Volume 6, Issue 11

June-July 2012

# **Registration and Enrollment Tips**

With the current school year coming to a close, now is the time for schools to ensure McKay enrollment for the upcoming school year is in order. Students who will be returning to the same school in August must be reenrolled. New students must be registered and enrolled. Students who will not be returning should be withdrawn.

In order to make the process less troublesome over the summer, students who have not been reenrolled in their current school by May 31st, will be available in the system to be picked up by another school, even if the student was not officially withdrawn from their current school.

STATUTORY DEADLINES—The McKay Scholarship enrollment deadline is <u>August 2</u>. Enrollment includes creating an individual student fee schedule and providing a first date of attendance. All current and new scholarship students must be enrolled by August 2 to be eligible for a September 1 payment.

**ACCURATE INFORMATION**— Please verify that students are enrolled in the correct grade level with the correct parent Social Security Number (SSN) and contact information. Incorrect parent SSNs may result in delay of scholarship payments.

**DATES**—Scholarship students must maintain continued attendance in a participating private school to remain eligible for payment. Please be accurate when entering first dates of <u>attendance</u> or student withdrawal dates.

WITHDRAWAL FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL—Advise parents of scholarship students, <u>especially new students</u>, to notify the public school district that their student is withdrawing from public school to attend a private school. Prior to payment, school districts are required to verify that scholarship students are <u>not enrolled</u> in public school. If the parent does not notify the district that the student is attending private

school, the district may report the student as still enrolled in public school. The scholarship payment then will be delayed until a correction is made.

If you encounter problems or need assistance with a scholarship student, <u>do not wait</u> until the deadline. Contact your Regional Manager promptly.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Any student who filed intent after July 3 will not be eligible for a September 1 payment, regardless of their enrollment date.
- A student will <u>forfeit</u> the scholarship if enrolled in any summer program, such as Drivers Ed., that is funded through FEFP.

### **Checking Intent Status**

After filing intent to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program, the parent is provided with a **confirmation number** that may be used to check the status of the intent, including the student's intent date, eligibility, matrix number, and estimated scholarship amount.

Private schools may assist parents in checking the intent status on the School Choice website. Simply enter the student's last name, birth date, and the intent confirmation number provided by the parent. Please note that the School Choice Information Hotline can provide student status information only to the parent or with the parent's permission.

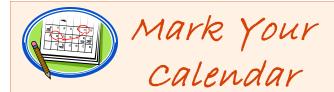


#### MENTAL HEALTH LITERACY AT THE FAMILY CAFÉ

The Family Café is hosting a one-day training entitled *Mental Health Literacy* on Thursday, **June 14**, **2012**, at the Hilton Orlando from 9:30am—5:00pm. This training will be held in conjunction with The 14th Annual Family Café at the Hilton Orlando at 6000 Destination Parkway. To register online, please visit <a href="http://www.familycafe.net/administrator/components/com\_civicrm/civicrm/images/stories/pdffiles/index.php?">http://www.familycafe.net/administrator/components/com\_civicrm/civicrm/images/stories/pdffiles/index.php?</a> option=com\_civicrm&task=civicrm/event/register&reset=1&id=2. For more information, please visit The Family Café website at <a href="https://www.familycafe.net">www.familycafe.net</a> or contact Lori Fahey at (850) 224-4670.

# THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN (FOC): CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, SPRING 2012

The Future of Children's new volume, *Children with Disabilities*, explores childhood disability-including prevalence, nature, treatment, and consequences. It also examines the importance of education for children with disabilities and their families. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.futureofchildren.org/">http://www.futureofchildren.org/</a>.



**May 31**—Date McKay students who have not been re-enrolled are made available in the system.

**June 1**—Date by which requests for missing payments must be submitted.

**July 3**—Intent filing deadline for the September 1 payment.

**August 2**— Enrollment deadline for the September 1 payment.

**August 15**—Date by which FTC standardized testing results must be submitted.

**September 2**—Intent filing deadline to be eligible for the November 1 payment.

**October 2**—Enrollment deadline for the November 1 payment.

Please contact your Regional Manager with questions regarding these deadlines.

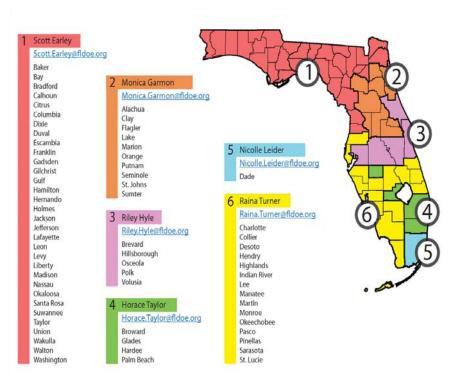
## **FTC** Reporting

Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program are reminded that they must report student' standardized test-scores for students in grades 3-10 to the parent and to the independent research organization selected by the Department of Education. Please send copies of score sheets with name, testing date, and national percentile ranking by August 15, 2012, to:

David Figlio School Reporting Compliance Center Department of Economics University of Florida Gainesville, Fl 32611-7140

Specific instructions are available on the School Choice Website at <a href="https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/">www.floridaschoolchoice.org/</a> <a href="https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/">Information/CTC/norm</a> referenced assessment.asp

#### Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



Florida Department of Education
"Improving K-12 Educational
Choice Options"

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WWW.FLORIDASCHOOLCHOICE.ORG

Current and previous newsletters are available on the School Choice Website.

Regional Managers- Call (800) 447-1636

#### McKay Scholarship Program

#### 2012-2013 IMPORTANT DEADLINES

|                  | 2012-2013 IIVII OKTANT DEADLINES |                             |                                       |  |                                  |  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Payment Period   | Payment Date                     | Parental Intent<br>Deadline | PRIVATE SCHOOL<br>ENROLLMENT DEADLINE | ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE | ATTENDANCE VERIFICATION DEADLINE |  |
| July 1 – Sept 30 | September 1                      | July 3                      | August 2                              | N/A                                      | N/A                              |  |
| Oct 1 – Dec 31   | November 1                       | September 2                 | October 2                             | October 3                                | October 10                       |  |
| Jan 1 – Feb 28   | February 1                       | December 3                  | January 2                             | January 3                                | January 10                       |  |
| Mar 1 – June 30  | April 1                          | January 31                  | March 2                               | March 4                                  | March 11                         |  |

- Please note that the deadlines for filing a parental intent and private school enrollment are statutory deadlines; therefore, the department cannot make exceptions if these deadlines are missed.
- Failure to complete attendance verification will result in a postponement of scholarship payments until the next scheduled payment period.
- Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program must meet the deadlines set by the Scholarship Funding Organizations to receive payment.