



Apply To Administer the FSA

Florida law provides participating scholarship schools with at least one Florida Tax Credit and/or Hope Scholarship student the opportunity to apply and participate in administering Florida State Assessments, including End-of-Course Assessments, to all students at the private school. Participating schools enrolling at least one Gardiner Scholarship student may also apply. The application to participate, along with Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the [Department of Education website](#). The application window is open thru March 1, 2019, with school eligibility determinations finalized in August 2019.

McKay Intent to Participate for 2019-20

Time is running out for students to be approved for the McKay Scholarship Program for the current school year.

Filing for the 2018-19 School Year

The last day to file intent for the 2018-19 school year is January 31, 2019. Any new scholarship students who file intent on or before this date must be enrolled by March 2, 2019, to be eligible to receive a fourth quarter scholarship payment on April 1, 2019.

Filing for the 2019-20 School Year

Intents filed on or after February 1, 2019, will be for the 2019-20 school year. These students must be enrolled in a participating private school by August 2, 2019, in order to be eligible for a first quarter scholarship payment on September 1, 2019.

Enrollment in the current school year with a 2019-20 Intent

Although an upcoming 2019-20 student is not eligible for payment during the current school year, a parent with an approved intent for 2019-20 may choose to enroll an eligible student in a participating

McKay Upcoming Deadlines

January 4 - 10

Attendance Verification week for the third payment period.

January 31

Last day to file an intent to participate for the 2018-19 school year.

February 1

First day for new students to file an intent for the 2019-20 school year.

March 2

Date by which a new student must be enrolled to receive the fourth quarterly payment.

March 4 -11

Attendance Verification week for the final payment period.

More Information

[Regional Managers](#)

[Update Notification Form](#)

[Compliance Resources](#)

[Application & Renewal Instructions](#)

[McKay Calendar](#)

[McKay Deadlines](#)

[McKay Student Technical Assistance](#)

[McKay Parent Affidavit](#)

Other Resources

National Criminal History Record Request Fees

Effective **January 1, 2019**, the fee for the national check portion of criminal history record requests will **INCREASE** from **\$12.00** to **\$13.25**. For those organizations performing criminal history record checks on VOLUNTEERS, through FDLE's Volunteer

private school for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year at their own expense. Of course, parents also have the option of keeping the student in public school for the rest of the current school year.

Current McKay Students

Please note that a new intent does not have to be filed for a student already participating in the McKay program in a private school. However, all students currently enrolled for the 2018-19 school year, regardless of whether or not they received payment, **must be re-enrolled** by August 2, 2019, to be eligible for the first payment next school year.

Scholarship Compliance Notes:

As we begin the 2019 compliance season, prepare to contact your county's Department of Health and Fire Department about scheduling inspections well in advance of compliance deadlines.

Health Inspection

To participate in state scholarship programs, private schools must have on file with our office a current, satisfactory Department of Health Private School Inspection Report. Once your county Health Department conducts the necessary inspection and provides the results on their DH 4160 form, include a copy of the "Satisfactory" report in the renewal school compliance package. Private schools that store, prepare, or serve food to students must also possess a current and satisfactory Food Service Inspection Report. Furthermore, the Department of Health is now required to also send private school inspection reports to the Department of Education.

Depending upon when the inspection is sent, this may cause a delay in your school's approval.

Fire Inspection

Private schools participating in state scholarship programs must also have on file with our office a current, violation-free Fire Inspection Report. There is no statewide fire inspection form, but the standards for the inspection are to be for an educational facility, private school, or life safety inspection as established by the State Fire Marshal's office. Schools are required to submit a copy of a "Satisfactory" or "Violation Free" inspection with your compliance package. Additionally, the State Fire Marshall is now required to grant the Department of Education access to private school fire inspection reports. This is accomplished by your local fire inspector entering your school's inspection information into a statewide database called the Online Reporting System. Depending upon when the inspection is sent, this may cause a delay in your school's approval.

and Employee Criminal History System (VECHS), the cost will **INCREASE** from **\$10.75** to **\$11.25**. These fee changes will impact all electronically submitted civil applicant fingerprint-based requests involving state and national criminal history checks. Please see the [Criminal History Fee Chart](#) which reflects the national (federal) fee changes that will be implemented January 1, 2019.

The state portion of fees for a Florida criminal history record request is legislatively mandated and will remain the same. In addition, there are no changes to any applicable state fingerprint retention fees.

If you have any questions please contact a customer service staff member within FDLE's CRIMINAL HISTORY SERVICES at (850) 410-8161 or via email at APPLICANTCHECKS@FDLE.STATE.FL.US.



School choice means giving moms and dads the opportunity to select the best K-12 education environments for their individual kids. Celebrate National School Choice Week January 20-26, 2019!

For more information, visit <http://schoolchoiceweek.com/>



The 2019 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! Initiative is scheduled for January 28 – February 1, 2019. This year's theme is *Spreading Literacy, One View at a Time*. For toolkits and other information, visit the [Celebrate Literacy Week](#),

Remember to review your inspection report to make sure your school's name and address is correctly listed.

Ethics Policy

Florida law requires private schools participating in any state scholarship program to adopt policies that establish certain minimum standards of ethical conduct for teachers and administrators. The policy must specifically mention a requirement for employee training on the ethical conduct standards. It must also contain the duty of school staff to report alleged employee or administrator misconduct that affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student, as well as the procedures for reporting alleged employee or administrator misconduct.

For more information, please see the [Compliance Resources](#) link available on our website or contact your Regional Manager.

[Florida!](#) website or contact the Just Read, Florida! office at 850-245-0503 or JustRead@fldoe.org.

Vocational Rehab

Florida Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is an agency that helps youth and adults with disabilities find, get, or keep jobs leading to meaningful careers. To learn more about VR and see how they can help your students, please go to www.RehabWorks.org.

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
Turlington Building, Suite 1044 | 325 W. Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
Toll-Free Information Hotline: 1-800-447-1636
Fax: 850-245-0875

