

Volume 3, Issue 1

September 2008

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

Welcome Back!



Special points of interest:

- This newsletter is sent to the McKay representative in each district who is listed on the School Choice website. Please be kind and forward it to other interested district staff.
- Please ensure a matrix code is entered within 30 days after intent is filed.

Best wishes from the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice for a successful 2008-09 school year. We hope everyone had a relaxing summer and is prepared for the excitement that the new school year brings.

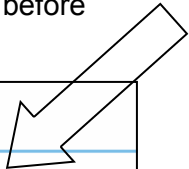
Parents are continuing to file intent for the current school year, so please be sure to login to the School Choice website to check your intent list on a regular basis.

Section 1002.39(5)(b)2.b., F.S., requires the school district to complete a matrix of services for every student participating in the McKay Scholarship Program and notify the Department of the student's matrix level within 30 days after receiving notification of a request to participate in the scholarship program. District staff must confirm that the student is a public school student and has an Individual Education Plan.

Student Survey District

When verifying student eligibility, district users may access a student's survey districts by clicking the **Student Survey Districts** link found in the right corner of each student's information page. The survey districts were moved to a separate link so that the information page would be able to load faster for each student.

Please note that when an intent is filed for a student, the Department will verify that the student was reported in the prior year's FEFP surveys before the intent record is sent to the school district.



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Student Information

[View / Edit Parent Data](#) | [Student Survey Districts](#)

School Year: 2008

Name: Smith, Sarah Lindsey

McKay Payment File

The McKay Scholarship District FTE File will be available **September 25, 2008**. This file provides each district with a list of students participating in the McKay Scholarship Program that received a payment. These students must be reported as McKay students (3518) to generate the necessary funding **unless** the student is physically in attendance at a public school. In this case, the student must be reported as a public school student. Additional important dates and deadlines for the 2008-09 school year are provided on the last page of the newsletter.

District Verification Form



The first quarter McKay Scholarship payments for the 2008-09 school year were issued September 1st. As private schools are reviewing payments, they will begin to submit the **McKay District Verification Form** to school districts for certain students that did not receive a payment.

This form must be completed by the parent, private school, and school district if a scholarship student did not receive a payment because the district reported the student as enrolled in public school (EPS) in error. Please be sure to update the student information in your district records if the student is now enrolled in a participating private school. This will ensure the student is not marked EPS in error in the future.

If you have any questions about this form, please contact your Regional Manager.

McKay Public School Options

Please be reminded that there is no statutory deadline for districts to offer or decline public school choice for parents whose students will participate in the McKay Scholarship Program.

Understandably, public school enrollment space and program availability is limited throughout the school year; however, the option of extending public school choice to parents should not be revoked. Districts, if able, may accept McKay public school students throughout the school year, provided that there is available space in the school and the appropriate program for the student. The same applies for eligible McKay Scholarship students requesting transfer to a public school in an adjacent school district.

In addition, McKay private school students may choose to exercise the McKay public school option. Parents are required to notify the school district that the student is returning to public school as a McKay student to determine what choices might be available. In the future if the parent wishes for the student to return to a private school under McKay, the student would need to meet all eligibility requirements including having an IEP and meeting the prior year in attendance requirement.

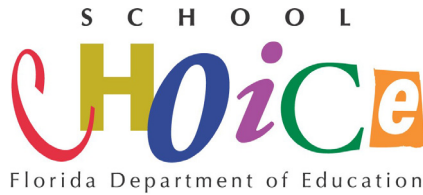


Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

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"Increasing the Quantity and Improving the Quality of Education Options"

ON THE WEB AT:

WWW.FLORIDASCHOOLCHOICE.ORG

Current and previous newsletters are available in PDF format on the School Choice website when logged in as a district administrator. Click on the "Newsletters" link in the General Information section of the screen.

MCKAY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IMPORTANT DEADLINES			
2008-2009	District Verification File		District FTE File
Payment Period	Available Date	Submission Deadline	Available Date
September	August 4th	August 13th	September 25th
November	October 3rd	October 15th	November 20th
February	January 5th	January 15th	February 19th
April	March 3rd	March 13th	May 8th

District Verification File: McKay pre-payment file which is exported to districts to verify students are not enrolled in public school system. This file contains all students the DOE *intends* on paying.

District FTE File: McKay post-payment file which identifies the students *who were* paid for the specified payment period and who will need to be reported to generate FTE funding.