

Volume 3, Issue 6

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Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



## McKay Scholarship Intents

### Special points of interest:

- Parents are now able to file intent for the 2009-10 school year.
- Intents filed for the 2008-09 school year will not be valid after April 30, 2009. If the parent of an eligible student has not utilized the scholarship by this date, the parent should file a new intent for the 2009-10 school year.
- The McKay Verification File will be posted on March 3, 2009. The deadline to submit the file is **March 13, 2009.**

Intents for the 2009-10 school year opened on February 2, 2009. The public school district must enter a matrix for all intents that have been filed pursuant to s. 1002.39(5)(b)2.b., F.S.

Once intent is filed and the student is determined eligible, the parent may choose either the public or private school option. Parents interested in the public McKay Scholarship option are instructed to contact the school district directly to request information about public school transfer options.

For the private school option, the parent must file intent by July 3rd and the student must enroll in a participating private school by August 2nd in order to

receive a first period payment for the 2009-10 school year on September 1st.

Please note that these deadlines **do not apply** to requesting public school options. The deadlines are established in statute and are specifically associated with quarterly scholarship payments. The only restrictions the statute sets on the public school McKay option relates to space and program availability. This applies whether the child attends in the home district or an adjacent district.

Finally, please remember to enter a matrix number or ineligibility reason within 30 days of a student filing intent. Reminder e-mails are automatically sent to school districts with overdue intents.

As a reminder, the **McKay Student List** for school districts will continue to default to the intents filed for 2008-09 until the end of the school year. School district users will have to manually select the **2009-10** link to see intents filed for next school year. Please ensure all 2008-09 intents are reported and 2009-10 intents are checked regularly.



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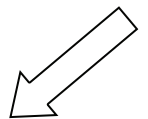
**Matrix Status:** [All](#) | **Not Reported** | [Reported \(Eligible: 251-255\)](#) | [Reported \(Ineligible\)](#)

**Enrollment Status:** [All](#) | [Enrolled](#) | [Not Enrolled](#)

**School Year:** [2001-02](#) | [2002-03](#) | [2003-04](#) | [2004-05](#) | [2005-06](#) | [2006-07](#) | [2007-08](#) | [2008-09](#) | **2009-10**

### Not Reported for 2009 (7)

Student Name	Student ID	DOB	Grade	Pub. Sch.	Intent Date	Matrix	Orig. Sch. Yr.	Status
<a href="#">Test_Test</a>	1111111111	01/01/00	PK	0221	2/5/2009		2009	Intent
<a href="#">Test_Test</a>	111223333x	01/01/99	KG	0052	2/3/2009		2009	Intent



## Parent Notification Requirements

Parent notifications of school choice options related to the McKay Scholarship Program must be distributed to parents of students with disabilities by April 1 of each year and within 10 days of an IEP meeting. The notifications must inform the parent of the availability of the department's toll-free information hotline and Internet website, and must offer the student's parent an opportunity to enroll the student in another public school within the district.

A memorandum with a Notification Verification Form and template letters in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole was recently distributed via the Department's paperless communication system and posted on the School Choice Web site when logged in as a District McKay Contact.

Please document the method and number of notifications on the reporting form and fax it back to the Department by **April 10, 2009**.

## McKay Student Verification

The McKay Scholarship District Verification File of students that the department intends to process for the April 2009 payment period will be posted on the Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) on March 3, 2009. **The deadline for completing the verification is March 13, 2009.** If you have any questions related to submitting or formatting the file, please contact Harold McLeod, Education Information Services, at [harold.mcleod@fldoe.org](mailto:harold.mcleod@fldoe.org). For scholarship payment related questions, please contact payment specialist Scott Lingo at [scott.lingo@fldoe.org](mailto:scott.lingo@fldoe.org).



## Providing Services to McKay Scholarship Students

Please note that once a McKay Scholarship student enrolls in a participating private school, the student is described as a parentally placed private school student with a disability and has no individual entitlement to free appropriate public education (FAPE). However, school districts where the private school is located have an obligation to ensure that such private school students have an opportunity to participate in programs assisted by or carried out under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004).

IDEA Part B requires school districts to expend a proportionate amount of the IDEA Part B funds for providing special education and related services to parentally placed private school students with

disabilities. Please ensure these services are provided through a Services Plan and not an Individual Education Plan (IEP). Once a student enrolls in a private school, the IEP does not apply.

Parentally placed private school students receiving services through a Services Plan should be reported for each designated survey period during the school year. For McKay Scholarship students, the school of enrollment should be identified as 3518.

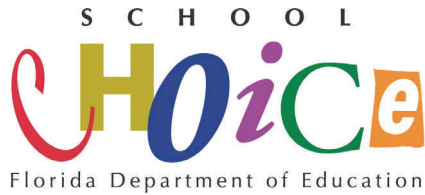
Addition information about these IDEA 2004 Part B requirements can be found in the Technical Assistance Paper entitled [Students with Disabilities Enrolled by Their Parents in Private Schools](#) and [Rule 6A-6.03021, Florida Administrative Code](#).

## Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

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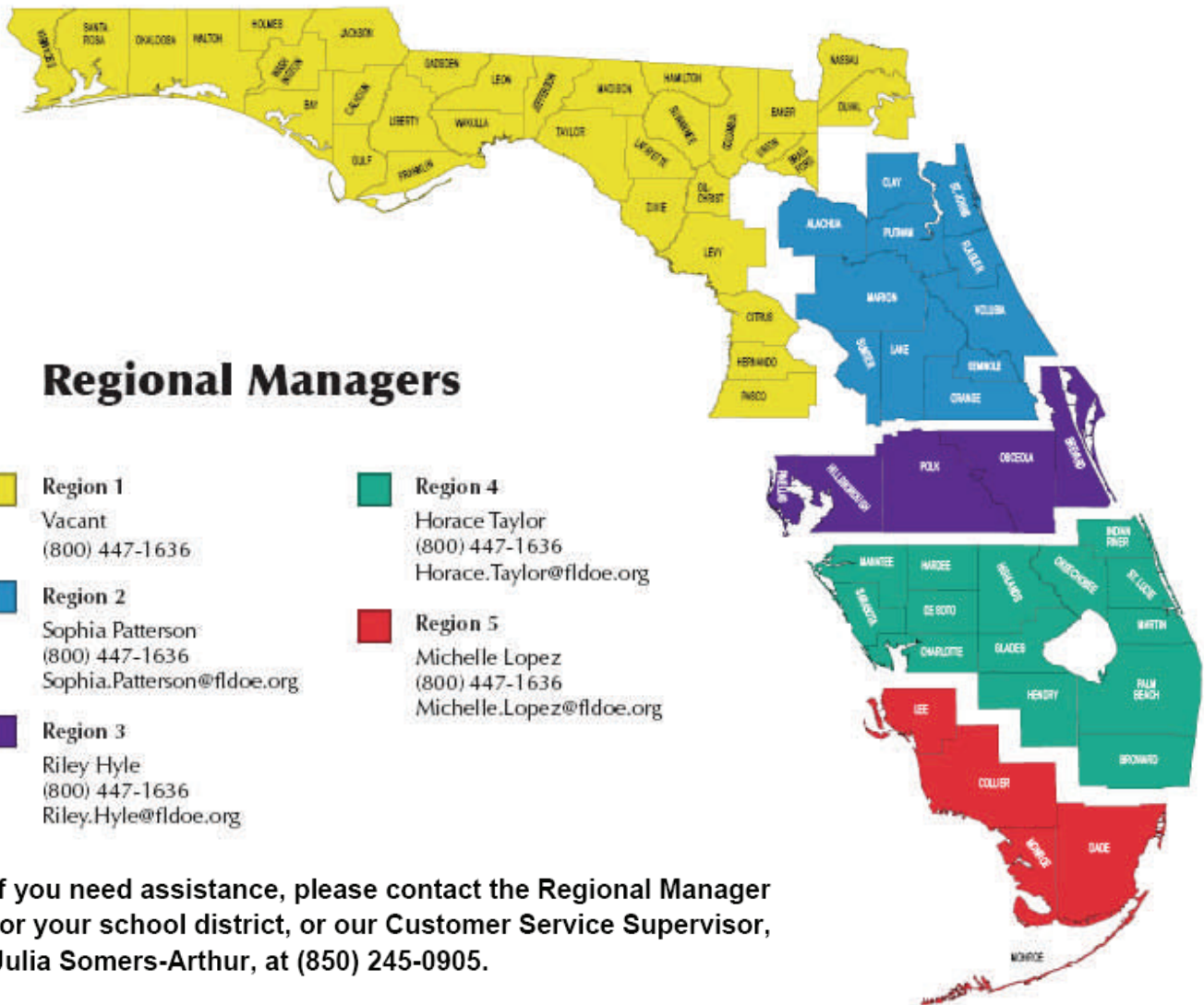


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Current and previous newsletters are available in PDF format on the School Choice Web site when logged in as a district administrator. Click on the "Newsletters" link in the General Information section of the screen.



If you need assistance, please contact the Regional Manager for your school district, or our Customer Service Supervisor, Julia Somers-Arthur, at (850) 245-0905.