

# Florida Scholarship Programs District Newsletter

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

Volume 6, Issue 1

September-October 2011

## Public School McKay Reminders



### Special points of interest:

- The District FTE File for the September payment period will be available September 30.
- The next District Verification File will be available October 3 and must be submitted by October 7.



### Inside:

New RM	2
District Deadlines	2
Contact Information	4

Please be reminded that **there is no statutory deadline** for the Public School McKay Scholarship Option. Districts may accept McKay public school students throughout the school year, provided there is available space in the selected school and the appropriate program for the student according to his or her IEP or 504 Plan. The same applies for eligible McKay Scholarship students requesting transfer to a public school in an adjacent district.

Students currently in a McKay private school may exercise the McKay public school option. Parents are required to notify the district that the student is returning to the public school under the McKay Public School Option, and the district will discuss with the parent what choices are available. In the future, if the parent wishes for the student to return to a private school under McKay, the student will need to file a new intent and meet all eligibility re-

quirements including having an IEP or 504 Plan and meeting the prior year attendance requirement.

### Reporting Public McKay Students

The Department of Education collects data related to the educational choice options selected by students enrolled in each school district. This data includes the number of students who transfer to another public school through the McKay Scholarship Pro-

gram. **Public school McKay participation is reported in the Educational Choice Data Element in the Automated Student Data Base as code M.**



Please help us ensure that the number of students being reported as McKay public school students is accurate. Our office receives multiple requests for this information and greatly appreciates your assistance in providing the highest quality data.

## McKay Intent Lists

As the school year progresses, parents will continue to file intent for the current school year through February 1, so please be sure to check your intent list on a regular basis.

Section 1002.39, F.S., requires the school district to notify the Department of the student's matrix level or to verify the student has a 504 Plan issued, within 30 days after receiving notification of a request to participate in the scholarship program. Our system verifies that the student met FTE requirements. District staff must confirm that the student is currently a public school student and has an Individual Education Plan or a 504 Plan that is effective for more than 6 months.

## Region 6 Regional Manager: Raina Turner

The School Choice Office is pleased to announce the promotion of Raina Turner to the position of Regional Manager for Region 6. Raina started in the School Choice Office as an intern, and shortly after graduating from Florida A & M University with a B.S. in Information Management, moved into the full time position of Staff Assistant. A Tallahassee native, Raina has an interest in law and leadership, and looks forward to attending law school in the future. Raina looks forward to assisting districts and schools with their scholarships issues.



## District Deadlines 2011-2012

The first quarter McKay Scholarship payments for the 2011-12 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. In addition to completing the form, please 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.

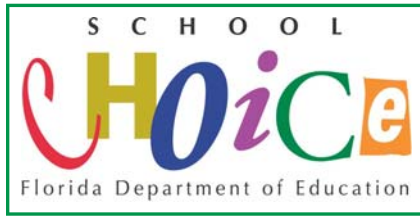
If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Manager.

MCKAY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IMPORTANT DEADLINES				
2011-2012	District Verification File			District FTE File
Payment Period	Available Date	Submission Deadline	Final Update	Available Date
September	August 3	August 8	August 10	September 30
November	October 3	October 7	October 11	November 21
February	January 3	January 6	January 10	February 20
April	March 5	March 9	March 12	May 16

**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.

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



"Improving K-12 Educational Choice Options"

Michael Kooi, Esq. Executive Director

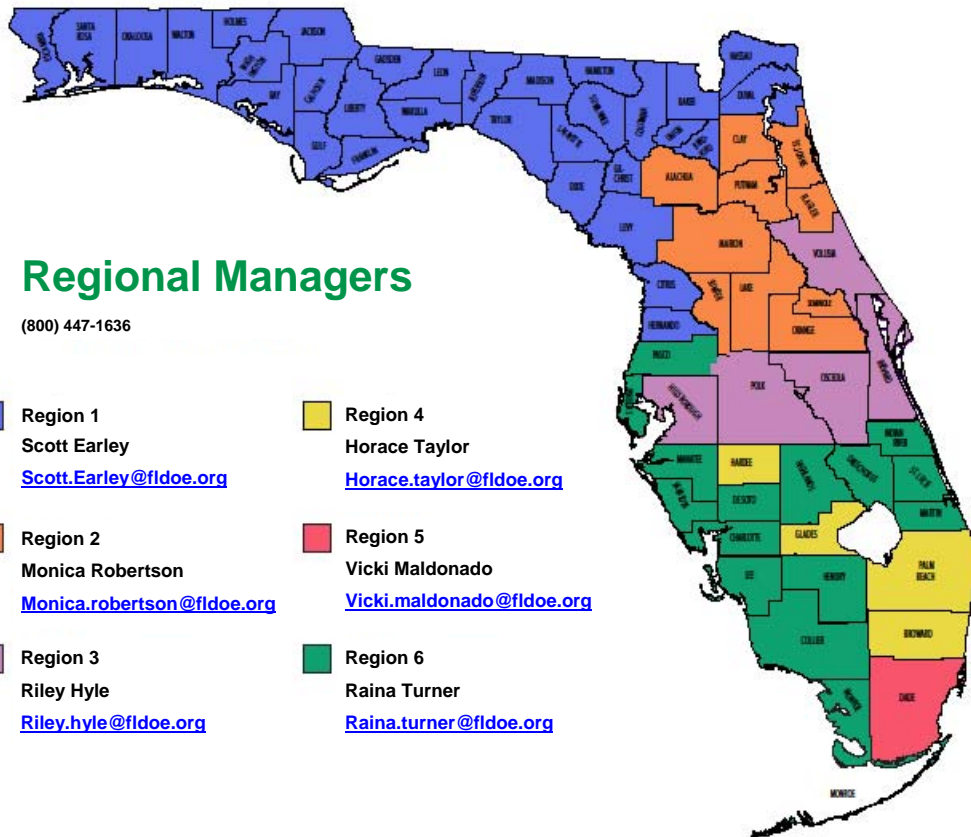
Florida Department of Education 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 522 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Toll-Free: (800) 447-1636 Fax: (850) 245-0875 Email: schoolchoice@fldoe.org

On the web at: WWW.FLORIDASCHOOLCHOICE.ORG

If you need assistance. . .

Please contact your Regional Manager or Scholarship Programs Manager, Pam London, (850) 245-0761.



Regional Managers

(800) 447-1636

- Region 1 Scott Earley Scott.Earley@fldoe.org
Region 2 Monica Robertson Monica.robertson@fldoe.org
Region 3 Riley Hyle Riley.hyle@fldoe.org
Region 4 Horace Taylor Horace.taylor@fldoe.org
Region 5 Vicki Maldonado Vicki.maldonado@fldoe.org
Region 6 Raina Turner Raina.turner@fldoe.org

Interested in back issues? 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.