

FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

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District Verification Deadlines for 2012-2013

District enrollment verification of students to be funded through the McKay Scholarship is an important accountability safeguard built into the program to ensure funding is appropriately distributed. The chart below displays the verification dates for the 2012-13 school year. For each payment period, the McKay student file will be available to districts via the Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC) site on the date listed for district review and verification, and must be submitted by the deadline in red. Once payments have been issued, the NWRDC will post the list of paid students.

For questions regarding payments, please contact the School Choice Payment Specialist, David Girtman at David.Girtman@fldoe.org.

Special points of interest:

- Parents must file intent to participate in the McKay Scholarship by **July 3** in order to receive the first quarterly payment.
- Participating schools must register and enroll McKay students by **August 2** in order to receive the first quarterly payment.
- Districts should ensure that McKay students matriculating from elementary to middle, or from middle to high school are not automatically re-enrolled in the district.



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McKay Scholarship Program District Deadlines				
2012-2013	District Verification File			District FTE File
Payment Period	Available Date	Submission Deadline	Final Update	Available Date
September	August 3	August 8	August 10	September 6
November	October 3	October 8	October 10	November 6
February	January 3	January 8	January 10	February 7
April	March 4	March 7	March 11	April 5



Take Note

FTE Data for 2011-12

Data for the 2011-12 FEFP October and February surveys has been uploaded to the system and is now accessible for verification of McKay eligibility.

Update District Contact Information

Please take a moment to check the contact information for your district on the School Choice website. You may edit or update the information by logging on to the District page. If you need assistance, please contact your regional manager.

Feedback Welcome

As the Scholarship Office administers scholarship processes, we are always looking for ways to improve. If you have a suggestion for ways that we can improve our accuracy, efficiency or communications with district staff, schools and parents, please get in touch. We welcome your input.



Opportunity Scholarship Changes

With the passage and signing of House Bill 7127, an act relating to school improvement and accountability, the **definition of school eligibility** as related to the Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP) was amended to include those schools earning **a grade of "F" or three consecutive "Ds"** as based on the statewide assessments.

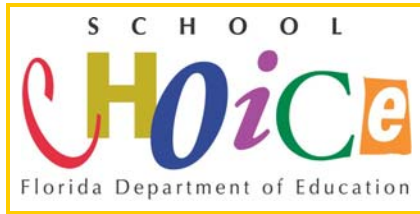
Current statute requires districts to offer the parents of affected students the option to enroll their student(s) in a higher performing public school (receiving a performance grade of "C" or better) in their district **with** transportation or in any other district in the state **without** transportation.

Current law also requires school districts to timely notify parents of their OSP options as soon as the eligibility designation is made. The Department has adopted Rule 6A-6.0950, **Notice Requirements for Opportunity Scholar-**

ship Program, <https://www.flrules.org/>. The provisions in the rule will be **effective for OSP notifications this summer for the 2012-13 school year** and include **penalties for non-compliance**.

The Department will provide each district with a list of OSP eligible elementary and middle schools when school grades become accessible. The eligible OSP high schools will follow in late Fall 2012. Parents of students assigned to or in attendance during the previous school year (by way of assignment) at an OSP eligible **elementary or middle school** must be notified of the options **within 15 days of notification by the Department**. Parents of students assigned to or in attendance during the previous school year (by way of assignment) at an OSP eligible **high school** must be notified of the options **no later than 30 days prior to the first day of school the next school year**.

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice



"Improving K-12 Educational Choice Options"

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- Hamilton
- Hernando
- Holmes
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Lafayette
- Leon
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Regional Managers- Call (800) 447-1636

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