

Florida Scholarship Programs District Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 2

November-December 2012

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Welcome

Our office would like to extend warm wishes of Happy Holidays to all districts. Please read over the friendly reminders pertaining to the scholarship programs as we continue with our 2012-2013 school year. Feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns, and enjoy your time off throughout this holiday season.

Prior Year in Attendance

Florida law requires a student to have spent the prior year in attendance at a public school in order to be eligible for a McKay Scholarship. "Prior year in attendance" is defined by Section 1002.39(2)(a)1.,



student to school year Florida to be

school year defined by

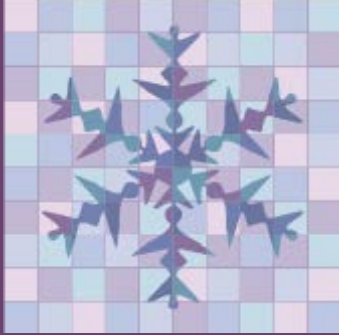
Florida

Statutes, as being reported for funding in the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program surveys. Therefore, any intent filed during the 2012-13 school year will be verified by the Department against the October 2011 and February 2012 FTE survey data. A student does not have to be reported for funding in the October 2012 funding survey to be eligible for the current school year. There may be instances when a student misses the current-year October survey count; however, the student's eligibility is determined based on the prior school year's FTE surveys and the student's present status as a public school student with an IEP or 504 Plan. It is the school district's responsibility to ensure the student has an IEP or a 504 Plan that is valid for more than 6 months, and to enter the appropriate status within 30 days. If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Manager.

District Verification Form

By November 1, McKay schools received their second quarterly scholarship payment. With each quarterly payment, the School Choice Office provides a **Reconciliation Report** to ensure that each enrolled student is paid appropriately, and that payments are not issued to students who are not entitled to receive a payment. The Reconciliation Report lists McKay students for whom a payment has not been issued, along with the

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reason the payment was not issued. For students listed EPS (enrolled in public school) in error, a **McKay District Verification Form**, signed by the school, the parent and the district, must be submitted to our office.

District FTE File

The McKay Scholarship District FTE File was made available **November 6, 2012**. The District FTE file provides each district with a list of students participating in the McKay Scholarship Program that received a payment. Please review and verify this information, if you have not done so already. 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.

McKay Prepayment Verification File

Prior to each quarterly McKay payment, a prepayment verification file is posted for the districts to download and verify a McKay student's enrollment or withdrawal from the public school district. The Student ID contained in this report is the same Student ID that was assigned by the district when the student filed the intent to participate. *If the district has a current Student ID that does not match the one assigned in the McKay prepayment verification file, it should be updated.* Please contact Payment Specialist David Girtman with any questions.

Note: Virtual School



While McKay students may take up to two courses per year via Florida Virtual School, enrollment in district virtual school classes that receive FEFP funding or a FLVS franchise program will result in forfeiture of the scholarship, as this is a "return to public school."

FTC and the FCAT

The memorandum, linked below, includes information regarding the implementation of a new legislative requirement that gives private schools with at least one student enrolled in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Program the opportunity to participate in statewide assessments.

Private School Opportunity to Participate in 2013-14 FCAT 2.0/EOC Assessments via the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program <http://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6567/dps2012-184.pdf>

If you have any questions about the information in this memorandum, please contact Tara Gardner at 850.245.0742 or Tara.Gardner@fldoe.org.

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