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Welcome

In this season of holidays, our office would like to express our appreciation for the work you do assisting students and families as they make school choice decisions. Please read over the friendly reminders pertaining to the scholarship programs, and feel free to contact our office with any questions or concerns.



Prior Year in Attendance

Florida law requires a student to have spent the prior school year in attendance at a Florida public school in order to be eligible for a McKay Scholarship. "Prior school year in attendance" is defined by Section 12.39(2)(a)1., Florida Statutes, as being reported for funding in the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program surveys. Therefore, any intent filed during the 2014-15 school year will be verified by the Department against the October 2013 and February 2014 FTE survey data. A student does not have to be reported for funding in the October 2014 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 current 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 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.



On the Web
at: www.floridaschoolchoice.org

School Choice Resources

School district staff are often asked to assist parents by providing information about scholarship programs and other school choice options. A one-stop resource is the Department's [Parent Resources](#) page on the School Choice website. Here information may be found for each program administered by our office. One resource that may be particularly helpful is the School Choice Options booklet, which highlights the wide array of choices available to Florida families and students. We hope these tools will assist you in providing school choice information to parents.

Spotlight on Reyna Alfaro

The Office of K-12 School Choice would like to introduce our newest addition to the regional manager team, Reyna Alfaro. Reyna previously worked in the call center here in the School Choice office and says she will miss "all the wonderful people" there. However, she is excited about facing the new challenges that face her in her new position, and the opportunity and satisfaction of helping others.



She was born in El Salvador, but moved to the United States at the age of fifteen. After completing high school in the U.S., Reyna earned a certificate in business administration and a certificate of Fundamentals in Arts. Currently, she is finishing her Associate in Arts degree at Tallahassee Community College. Next Spring, she wishes to continue her higher education, hopefully in Civil Engineering and/or Psychology, at Florida State University.

Aside from her duties at the Department of Education, Reyna enjoys

painting, drawing, reading, traveling, skydiving, and learning new cultures and languages. She volunteers with her church chorus by singing or playing the mandolin. Also, Reyna volunteers at Tallahassee Community College's international events.

Favorite Quote
"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible'!"
 - Audrey Hepburn

**MCKAY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
 IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

2014-2015	District Verification File			District FTE File
Payment Period	Available Date	Submission Deadline	Final Update	Available Date
September	August 4 th	August 6 th	August 8 th	September 2 nd
November	October 3 rd	October 8 th	October 10 th	November 3 rd
February	January 5 th	January 7 th	January 9 th	February 2 nd
April	March 3 rd	March 5 th	March 9 th	March 30 th

Questions? Please contact your Regional Manager.
