



District Bulletin | November - December 2017

District Downloadable Excel File

When logged in to our website you may access the District Downloadable Excel file. This file will help districts accurately report FTE by providing up-to-date payment information for McKay Scholarship students.

In reporting FTE for McKay students, if you find that a student on the list is physically in attendance at a public school during the time of the survey, he or she should be reported as a public school student. Please enter the appropriate matrix codes on our website when they have returned to public school.

Private Schools and State Assessments

Any participating private school with at least one enrolled Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship student or Gardiner Scholarship student may apply to the department to administer the Florida Statewide Assessments (e.g., Florida Standards Assessments, Florida EOC Assessments, Statewide Science Assessment) to all students at the private school, per Sections 1002.395 and 1002.385, Florida Statutes.

The private school must have at least one FTC Scholarship student or Gardiner Scholarship student enrolled at the time of application and during the eligible school year, and the school must abide by all state and district testing policies and procedures in order to participate. Private schools will be held to the same expectations as public schools in these areas. Applications for participation in the 2018-19 school year will be accepted between January and March of 2018. FAQs for both district personnel and private schools are available at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/private-schools/>.

Gardiner Student Matrix

Pursuant to section 1002.385, F.S., funding for a student's Gardiner Scholarship account is initially calculated with a matrix of 253. At the parent's request, district personnel must complete a revised matrix of

District Contact Survey

If you have not done so, please complete the below survey. Through your responses hope to gain a better understanding of districts' scholarship program structure.

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/adam-miller/mckay-and-gardiner-scholarship-programs/>.

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.

More Information

[District Verification Deadlines](#)

[Regional Managers](#)

[McKay Calendar](#)

McKay EPS Students

The McKay Student EPS List on our website allows district users to clear a student who was accidentally marked as Enrolled in Public School as a result of the district's F70561 file.

services for a Gardiner student. Parents must make their scholarship funding organization (SFO) aware of their request, and they must also contact the district directly. Once the parent contacts the district, the matrix must be completed within thirty days of the request.

In addition to completing the matrix, districts must notify our office of a student's matrix level by logging into our website and entering the matrix using the Gardiner Student List link in the left menu. If the parent has notified their SFO that they are making a request for a matrix review, editing the matrix for the student will be enabled. If you have questions about entering a matrix for a Gardiner student, please contact your Regional Manager. More information on the Gardiner Scholarship Program is available on our website at <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/gardiner/>.

School Choice New Regional Managers



From left to right: Daymi Alonso and Chad Wilson.

Please welcome our newest Regional Managers, Daymi Alonso and Chad Wilson. Daymi previously worked as a customer service representative with our office and Chad comes to us with 20 plus years of teaching experience and private school knowledge.

Daymi is taking over Dade and Chad is taking over Brevard, Hillsborough, Polk and Volusia.

Private schools may be unaware that your office has cleared a student's EPS flag and will continue to send District Verification Forms for your signature. When a school submits a DVF for a student you have already cleared, there is no need to complete and send us the form. You will only need to submit a District Verification Form to our office if you're trying to clear the EPS flag from a previous pay period.

McKay Scholarship Prior Year 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 as being reported for funding in the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program Surveys. Therefore, any intent filed during the 2017-18 school year will be compared by the Department against the October 2016 and February 2017 FTE survey data.

A student does not have to be reported for funding in the October 2017 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 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.

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