



District Bulletin | March – April 2018

2018 Legislative Session

The 2018 Legislative Session has come at an end. Please be on the lookout for future correspondence regarding any changes or impacts to state scholarship programs.

McKay Eligibility for Pre-K

The McKay Scholarship may be awarded to eligible students beginning in their kindergarten year; however, pursuant to section 1002.39(2), F.S., a student may file intent and establish eligibility for the program in pre-kindergarten in one of two ways. A student must either

- have been enrolled and reported for funding during the preceding October and February FEFP surveys and have been eligible for services under section 1003.21(1)(e), F.S. (i.e., as a pre-k student with disabilities); or
- have received specialized instructional services under the Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Education Program pursuant to section 1002.66, F.S. during the previous school year.

In addition, the student must have an Individual Education Plan or 504 Accommodation Plan.

If the intent is filed for a rising kindergarten student prior to their Pre-K transition meeting, the district may identify the student status in the system as “IEP pending transition meeting.” When the transition meeting is complete, the system will allow the district to assign the appropriate matrix or eligibility status.

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 services for a Gardiner student. Parents must make their scholarship funding organization (SFO) aware of their

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.

Updated Eligibility Correction Form (ECF)

Please notice the ECF has been updated to replace student ID with FLEID. This is another step towards full implementation of FLEIDs.

McKay Scholarship: Parent Notification Requirements

Earlier this month, the Department issued a memorandum related to the requirement for public school districts to notify parents of students with disabilities about McKay Scholarship Program options. Parental notifications must be sent by April 1st of each school year and within 10 days of an Individual Education Plan meeting. To certify compliance with this requirement, please visit

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mckay2018-2019> to complete and submit the Notification Verification Form to our office no later than Monday, April 16, 2018.

You can find the memorandum and sample parent letters when logged in as a district contact on the school choice website.

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/>.

More Information

[Regional Managers](#)

[McKay Calendar](#)

[McKay Student Technical Assistance](#)

[District Verification Deadlines](#)

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice
Turlington Building, Suite 1044 | 325 W. Gaines Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
Toll-Free Information Hotline: 1-800-447-1636
Fax: 850-245-0875

