



District Bulletin | May-June 2020

McKay District Verification Deadlines

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. For each payment period, the McKay Verification 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 submission deadline. 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, Claire Padgett at Claire.Padgett@fldoe.org.

Florida Virtual School and McKay

As a reminder, section 1002.39, F.S., specifies that a McKay Scholarship student may take up to two (2) courses from Florida Virtual School without jeopardizing scholarship eligibility. Students taking more than 2 Florida Virtual School courses will forfeit their McKay Scholarship. For additional information regarding the McKay Scholarship and FLVS, please contact our office.

Gardiner Student List

The Gardiner Scholarship Program is administered by Scholarship Funding Organizations, such as Step Up for Students and AAA Scholarship Foundation. Unlike McKay, students are not required to attend a public school prior to participating in Gardiner. Participating families may be enrolled in private schools or home education programs and use the funds to purchase approved services or products in order to design a customized educational program for the student. When logged into our website, a Gardiner student list is available for your review. This list contains all students residing in your district whose eligibility has been confirmed by a Scholarship Funding Organization, however, these students may not yet have been funded. If a family requests a matrix review prior to, or after, being funded, use this list to report the new matrix. More information on the Gardiner Scholarship Program is available on the School Choice [website](#).



Florida's Reopening Guidance

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is working closely with the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor COVID-19 and is actively working to ensure that the most up-to-date guidance is quickly and accurately disseminated. FDOE understands that concerns about health and safety are paramount for all education communities. In response to such concerns, we encourage you to access up-to-date information and resources from the [Florida Department of Health \(FDOH\) website](#) or the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) website](#).

School districts and colleges should work directly with [their local county health departments](#) to establish protocols to re-open Florida's educational institutions, control the spread of COVID-19, and educate the public on prevention.

[FDOE's COVID-19 Page](#) is regularly updated, features the most current information on COVID-19, primarily from the CDC and FDOH, as well as guidance and resources for everyday disease prevention strategies. Please direct any questions about COVID-19 in Florida to FDOH at COVID-19@flhealth.gov.

Department of Children and Families Abuse Hotline: 1-800-962-2873
[Reporting Abuse During COVID-19](#) (PDF)
[Information for Educators](#) (PDF)

Florida Civics and Debate Initiative

Governor Ron DeSantis announced a multiyear, \$5 million grant from The Marcus Foundation to establish the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI). The mission of the FCDI is to expand new programs into 60 new schools with the intent to implement in all school districts by 2023, develop and host the first-ever of its kind National Civics and Debate Competition (NCDC), and provide professional development techniques and best practices for teaching civics to teachers. For more information about participating schools and how to participate, visit: <https://www.floridaeducationfoundation.org/fcdi>.



Junior Olympics

Brevard County School Board is supporting the 2020 Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior Olympics Games this year at Viera Regional Park on Florida's Space Coast. The event will take place from **July 25 - August 8, 2020**. The AAU is one of the largest non-profit volunteer sports organizations in the county and are dedicated to promoting sports programs. For more information on how you can participate in this summer's AAU Junior Olympic Games, visit: <http://ww1.aaujrogames.org/home.aspx>.

Legislative Update

During the 2020 Legislative Session, a total of 210 bills passed in both the House and Senate Chambers. Included in this total, is [CS/HB-7067, K-12 Scholarship Programs](#), and [HB-5001, the General Appropriations Act](#). Both of these bills have been signed by the Governor, and will begin to be implemented. The IEPC Office will continue to monitor the Governor's actions on pending legislation, and update you on any necessary actions to be taken.

Additional Resources:

[Regional Managers](#)

[McKay Calendar](#)

[McKay Deadlines](#)