

## In This Issue

[Compliance Renewal](#)

[McKay: Checking Intent Status](#)

[FTC Norm-Referenced Testing](#)

[Compliance Assistance](#)

[Participate in PLSA](#)

[Mark Your Calendar](#)

[Regional Managers Map](#)

[View 2014-2015 Deadlines](#)



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## Compliance Renewal Due March 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline Approaching

Participating private schools have less than one month left to submit a Scholarship Compliance Form in order to renew participation in the state McKay and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship programs.

- Step 1: The forms must be submitted online, and a signed and notarized hard copy must be mailed to our office postmarked no later than March 1, 2015.
- Step 2: For renewing private schools that submit their compliance forms by the deadline, any outstanding compliance issues must be resolved and any additional compliance documentation must be received by our office no later than May 1, 2015.

Schools missing either of these deadlines will not be eligible to participate in the scholarship programs for the 2015-2016 school year.

Your regional manager will assist you with any questions. Schools are advised to contact them as early as possible, as the increasing volume of calls and e-mails may delay their response as deadlines approach.

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## McKay: Checking Intent Status

## Contact Us

FL Department of Education  
325 W. Gaines Street,  
Suite 1044  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Toll-Free: 800-447-1636  
Fax: 850-245-0875

E-mail:  
[schoolchoice@fldoe.org](mailto:schoolchoice@fldoe.org)

On the Web  
at: [www.floridaschoolchoice.org](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org)

## 2015 Intent Has Opened!



After filing intent to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program, the parent is provided with a **confirmation number** that may be used to check the status of the intent, including the student's intent date, eligibility, matrix number, and estimated scholarship amount.

Private schools may assist parents in checking the intent status on the School Choice website. Simply enter the student's last name, birth date, and the intent confirmation number provided by the parent. Please note that the School Choice Information Hotline can provide student status information only to the parent or with the parent's permission.

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## FTC Norm-Referenced Testing

Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program are reminded of the requirement to administer, or make provisions for FTC students in grades 3-10 to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the Department of Education. The approved assessments and specific instructions are available on the School Choice website at:

<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/ftc/annual-assessment-requirement.stml>

Participating private schools must make arrangements to administer one of the approved listed tests during the prior school year, unless the private school has requested and received approval to use an alternate assessment. If you have any questions related to this requirement, please review the information on the page linked above, or contact your Regional Manager.

### Reporting NRT Results

Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program must report the results of nationally norm-referenced tests or the statewide assessments administered by the private school in grades 3 through 10 to the parent and to Learning Systems Institute. Please send copies of score sheets with name, testing date, and national percentile ranking by August 15, 2015, to:

**Melissa Dyehouse**  
**Learning Systems Institute**  
**Florida State University**

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**Suite 4600 University Center Bldg. C**

**Tallahassee, FL 32306-2540**

For information about upcoming deadlines or questions about the project, please contact Melissa Dyehouse via phone (850-645-0396) or email ([mdyehouse@lsi.fsu.edu](mailto:mdyehouse@lsi.fsu.edu)) or go to: <http://schoolreporting.net>.

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## Assistance With Compliance

With only one month left to submit a Scholarship Compliance Form, you may find yourself in need of assistance with this annual task. Helpful videos and information for compliance can be found under [Compliance Resources](#) (in the left-hand menu), when you are logged in as a private school at [www.floridaschoolchoice.org](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org)

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## Participate in PLSA

The Personal Learning Scholarship Account (PLSA) program was established in the 2014 legislative session to provide parents the option to better meet the individual needs of their eligible children. Scholarship accounts are administered by Florida's two approved scholarship-funding organizations (SFOs). Parents of eligible children may use the accounts to purchase approved goods or services, and private school tuition, as well as provide for prepaid college plans.

A student is eligible for a PLSA from an SFO if:

- the student is a resident of Florida;
- the student is eligible to enroll in grades K-12 in a Florida public school;
- Has a disability as defined by Section 1002.385(2)(d), Florida Statutes; and,
- Is the subject of an IEP, or has received a diagnosis of an eligible disability from a licensed physician or psychologist.

More information on PLSA and eligible SFOs is available on our website at [www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/PLSA](http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/PLSA).

Private schools that are eligible for McKay and/or FTC are also eligible to participate in PLSA. If your school would like to participate in the PLSA program, submit an electronic request to participate from the private school homepage when logged in to our website.

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# Mark Your Calendar



**February 1**—First day for new students to file an intent for the 2015-16 school year.

**March 1**— Scholarship Compliance Forms due for 2015-16 participation.

**March 2**—Date by which a new student must be enrolled to receive the fourth quarterly payment.

**March 3-10**—Attendance Verification week for the final payment period.

**May 1**—Date by which all Compliance issues must be resolved.

**June 1**—Date by which requests for missing payments must be submitted.

**July 3**—Intent filing deadline for the September 1 payment.

**August 2**—Enrollment deadline for the September 1 payment.

*Questions? Please contact your Regional Manager.*

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