

# Florida Scholarship Programs Newsletter

April 2015 Volume 9, Issue 9

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#### Compliance Issues - May 1st

Renewing private schools that met the Scholarship Compliance Form submission deadline of March 1 must resolve any outstanding compliance issues by May 1, 2015, in order to remain eligible to participate in the state scholarship programs for the 2015-16 school year. This means all documentation must be received by our office on or before May 1. Schools having unresolved issues after May 1 will not be able to participate in the McKay or FTC Scholarship Programs for the upcoming school year. Please contact your regional manager promptly if you have any questions.

## **Bullying Prevention**

The Children's Safety Network has published the Bullying Prevention: 2015 Resource Guide, which provides extensive information and resources about bullying prevention. Contents include descriptions of organizations and websites; data, definitions, and research; programs, campaigns, and toolkits; policies, laws, and legislation; publications and resources; and information about at-risk populations as well as bullying and co-occurring issues. To view the guide, go to <a href="http://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/sites/">http://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/files/Bullying%20Prevention.pdf</a>.

#### **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

### Required Student Records

In addition to meeting health and safety requirements for their physical location, all Florida private schools must complete and retain certain student records. Enrollment records must be compiled, including school entry health examination

E-mail: schoolchoice@fldoe.org On the Web

at: www.floridaschoolchoice.org

and immunization records. Attendance records must be maintained showing that students meet the compulsory attendance requirements established in Florida law and State Board Rule.

If your school is selected for a site visit, staff members from our office will review these student records. Additionally, should your school close, you will be required to transfer all permanent information included in student records to the public school district.



For more information, see our website: Detailed Requirements for Private Schools.

## FTC Reporting

Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program are reminded that they must report student standardized test scores for students in grades 3-10 to the parent and to the independent research organization selected by the Department of Education. 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 Suite 4600 University Center Bldg. C Tallahassee, FL 32306-2540

Specific instructions are available on the School Choice Website.

#### Did You Know?

Florida SHOTS™ (State Health Online Tracking System) helps health-care providers and schools safeguard immunization records in a free, statewide, centralized online registry. The system is authorized by law, and is a program of the Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Bureau of Communicable Disease, Immunization Program.



For more information, see their website at <a href="http://www.flshots.com/">http://www.flshots.com/</a>. Also, you can find updated information about the CDC recommended immunization schedule from the Florida Department of Health at <a href="http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/announcements/index.html">http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/immunization/announcements/index.html</a>.

#### Mark Your Calendar



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

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

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

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

**August 15**—Date by which FTC standardized testing results must be submitted.

Questions? Please contact your Regional Manager.