

K-12 Scholarship Programs

Private Schools | July 2015

Upcoming Deadlines

August 2

Enrollment deadline for the McKay September 1 payment.

August 15

Date by which FTC standardized testing results must be submitted.

September 2

Intent filing deadline to be eligible for the November 1 McKay payment.

October 2

Enrollment deadline for the November 1 McKay payment.

More Information

Regional Managers
McKay Calendar
McKay Deadlines
Application & Renewal Instructions
McKay Student Technical Assistance
Compliance Resources
McKay Parent Affidavit
Update Notification Form

Website Update

We have a new home page if you haven't noticed yet! The web address, www.floridaschoolchoice.org leads to

http://www.fldoe.org/schools/schoolchoice/. This is our new home page so go ahead and bookmark it! Your new login page is located under the <u>Secured Login</u> section.

FTC Reporting

If your private school participates in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program, don't forget to report student standardized test scores for students in grades 3-10 by **August 15, 2015.** Send copies of score sheets with name, testing date, and national percentile ranking to:

Melissa Dyehouse

Learning Systems Institute Florida State University Suite 4600 University Center Bldg. C Tallahassee, FL 32306-2540

PLSA Update

The recent legislative session resulted in several changes to the Personal Learning Scholarship Account Program (PLSA). Among the changes are:

- Reducing eligibility age to include 3 and 4 year olds,
- Adding muscular dystrophy and autism spectrum disorder to the list of qualifying disabilities,
- Including part-time tutoring from a qualified provider in the list of approved expenses.

For the 2015-16 school year, funds were appropriated to provide scholarships for approximately 5,300 new and returning students. If you have any questions or would like for your school to participate in the PLSA program, contact your regional manager.

Moving?

Private schools participating in state scholarship programs must alert the department to any change in location within 15 days. Be sure to have all applicable inspections completed before students attend your new location.

Avoid delays in scholarship payments--be sure to submit an Update Notification Form to inform our office of your move, and provide the necessary documentation as soon as possible.

Other Resources



The Coalition of McKay Scholarship Schools is an alliance of non-public schools that serve children with special needs. The Coalition works to keep the McKay Scholarship Program a viable option for parents of students with disabilities in Florida. On October 9, 2015, the Coalition will host a conference entitled Best Practices for McKay Schools: Business and Curriculum at DoubleTree Orlando East. To learn more about the Coalition and register for the conference, visit their website, mckaycoalition.org.

McKay Enrollment Tips

The new school year nearly upon us, and it's time for a few reminders about McKay enrollment. First, private schools must submit a School Fee Schedule each year. Students who will be returning to your school must be **re-enrolled**; new students must be both **registered** and **enrolled**. Please **withdraw** students who will not be returning to your school this fall.

Remember:

- All current and new scholarship students must be enrolled by August 2 to be eligible for a September 1st payment.
- Be sure to verify parent Social Security Numbers (SSN) and contact information. Incorrect parent SSNs may result in delay of scholarship payments.
- Remember that each McKay Scholarship student must have a Parent Affidavit on file with our office, completed by the parent who will endorse scholarship payments.
- Parents of new scholarship students should notify the public school district that their student is withdrawing to attend a private school. If the district reports the student as enrolled in public school, scholarship payments will be delayed until a correction is made.

NOTE: Any student who filed intent after July 3rd will not be eligible for a September 1st payment, regardless of their enrollment date.

If you encounter problems or need assistance with a scholarship student, do not wait until the deadline. Contact your Regional Manager promptly.

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

