

OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AND PARENTAL CHOICE

September 2015

Annual Survey

The 2015 **Annual Survey of Private Schools** is now available online. By law, all private schools in Florida are required to submit the Annual Survey. It is also a requirement for participation in the state scholarship programs and must be completed as part of the Compliance process. To submit the survey, log into our website as a private school, complete the information and submit it online. The survey must also be printed, signed by the owner/chief administrative officer, notarized and mailed to our office.

By submitting the survey, your school will be included in the private school directory available on our website, your students will be able to qualify for a Bright Futures Scholarship, and you will receive updates from our office on federal initiatives and other issues affecting private schools.

Please complete this important requirement promptly.

Fingerprint Requirement

Private schools participating in state scholarship programs must ensure that all staff having contact with students pass a Level 2 background check through FDLE, and retain staff fingerprints in the Applicant Fingerprint Retention Notification Program (AFRNP).

FDLE sends invoices to private schools monthly for the retention of fingerprints in their database. Invoices must be paid as soon as possible. If the invoice is not paid, the prints are deleted from the AFRNP. Once fingerprints are deleted, they cannot be retrieved. To be in compliance with the law, your school employees will have to again submit their fingerprints for state and national checks and for retention; and an additional fee will be assessed.

FTC and PLSA Norm-Referenced Testing

Private schools participating in the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program must make provisions for FTC students in grades 3-10 to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the Department of Education. PLSA students for whom the tests are appropriate are included in this requirement. Approved assessments

Upcoming Deadlines

September 2

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

October 2

Enrollment deadline for the November 1 McKay payment.

October 5-9

McKay Attendance Verification week for the 2nd payment period.

More Information

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

Other Resources

FloridaStudents.org is a new free tool designed to aid students and provide Florida Standards Student Tutorials and Resources. The website currently has over 1,700 resources aligned to Florida Standards in ELA, mathematics, science and civics, some web-based, as well as original tutorials created by Florida educators.

The website also contains a link to the Official SAT® Practice website, a free resource for students that is provided by the College Board and Khan Academy.

Just Take 20

and specific instructions are available on our website at: http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/ftc/annual-assessment-requirement.stml. Any request for the use of another assessment must be submitted to the Department in writing by September 15, 2015.

McKay Payment Problems

Warrants for the first McKay payment were scheduled to arrive on or before September 1st. Upon receipt, schools should immediately check to determine if all enrolled and eligible McKay students have been paid. If not, review the Resolving Payment Issues page on our website for assistance in determining how to remedy issues. For students marked EPS-Enrolled in Public School in error, check our website for McKay district contact details.

Any payments you received for students not in attendance at your school should be returned to our office at the address below. If you have questions, please contact your Regional Manager.

Immunization Annual Report of Compliance

Any school that enrolls kindergarten or 7th grade students is required to complete an Immunization Annual Report of Compliance for those grades (Department of Health Form DH 684), in accordance with Section 1003.22(8), Florida Statutes, and State Department of Health Rule 64D-3.046(3), Florida Administrative Code. This report is submitted to your district Department of Health office. Schools participating in state scholarship programs attest to compliance with this requirement each year when submitting the Scholarship Compliance Form.

<u>Compulsory School Immunizations Annual Report and Survey , 2015-</u> <u>2016 School Year</u>

Instructions for completing dh form 684

Immunization annual report of compliance for kindergarten and seventh grade compulsory immunization - Florida Statutes 1003.22

Immunization section field staff

The Just Take 20 campaign provides K-12 Florida families with practical, easy-to-implement reading activities that establish literacy as a lifelong value. Just Take 20 encourages families to seize everyday teachable moments by using 20 minutes a day to integrate reading into their busy lives. Families are invited to create their own custom literacy plans and have fun while learning!

Just Take 20 events will be held across the state, including family workshops, community events, and professional development opportunities to support literacy education among educators and the families they support.



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.

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