

OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT EDUCATION AND PARENTAL CHOICE

Scholarship Bulletin | December 2016

Scholarship Compliance Renewal

Private schools participating in the state scholarship programs must renew their participation annually by submitting verification of their compliance with program requirements. The 2017-18 Scholarship Compliance Form must be submitted online and also printed, signed, notarized and postmarked no later than **March 1, 2017**. Any outstanding issues must be resolved on or before May 1st in order for the school to remain eligible to participate in the state scholarship programs for the next school year.

Information on the renewal process is available on our website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org. After logging in, you will find our Application and Renewal Instruction Packet under the Scholarship Programs section of the left hand menu. Additional resources are available through the Compliance Training link in the Compliance Resources section.

Update Contact Information

A new year often brings changes such as new staff or a new location. Incorrect contact information or typos may prevent you from receiving important scholarship program communications. Please log in to the School Choice website and click "View School Info" to ensure your school's address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address are up to date. If corrections are necessary, please contact your Regional Manager as soon as possible.

Apply to Administer the FSA

Upcoming Deadlines

January 2

Date by which new students with a valid intent must be enrolled to receive the February 1st payment.

January 4-10

Attendance Verification week for the third payment period.

January 31

Last day to file an intent to participate for the 2016-17 school year.

February 1

First day for new students to file an intent for the 2017-18 school year.

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.

More Information

Regional Managers

McKay Calendar

McKay Deadlines

Application & Renewal Instructions

McKay Student Technical Assistance

Any participating scholarship school with at least one Florida Tax Credit or Gardiner Scholarship student enrolled may have the opportunity to apply and participate in administering the FSA and Florida End-of-Course Assessments to all students at your private school. The application to participate along with Frequently Asked Questions will be released soon, via links available through your secured log-in. The application window will begin in January and continue until March 1, 2017, with school eligibility determinations finalized in August 2017.

FTC Norm-Reference 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 state assessments or 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 2016-17 school year. If you have any questions related to this requirement, please review the information linked above, or contact your Regional Manager.

Child Abuse Training for Teachers

Florida school personnel have a duty to report actual or suspected cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect. Reporting can be done by phone, fax or online. The Department of Children and Families, Florida Abuse Hotline and Child Care Regulation has developed additional training on this topic. The web-based course, specifically designed for teachers in grades 1-12, is titled Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect.

Compliance Resources

McKay Parent Affidavit

Update Notification Form

Other Resources



School choice means giving moms and dads the opportunity to select the best K-12 education environments for their individual kids. Celebrate National School Choice Week January 22-28, 2017! For more information, visit: http://schoolchoiceweek.com/



The 2016 Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! Initiative is scheduled for January 23-27, 2017. This year's theme is "Literacy Changes Our World!" For toolkits and other information, visit the <u>Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!</u> website or contact the Just Read, Florida! office at 850-245-0503 or JustRead@fldoe.org.

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