



Compliance Renewal Due, March 1st 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, 2016.
- **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, 2016.

Schools missing either of these deadlines will not be eligible to participate in the scholarship programs for the 2016-2017 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.

McKay Scholarship: 2016 Intent Has Opened!

Intents filed on or after February 2, 2016 are for the 2016-17 school year. 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.

McKay Upcoming Deadlines

February 1

Last day to file an intent to participate for the 2015-16 school year.

February 2

First day for new students to file an intent for the 2016-17 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.

May 1

Date by which all Compliance issues must be resolved.

June 1

Date by which requests for missing payments must be submitted.

More Information

[Regional Managers](#)

[McKay Calendar](#)

[McKay Deadlines](#)

[Application & Renewal Instructions](#)

[McKay Student Technical Assistance](#)

[Compliance Resources](#)

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.

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, 2016, to:

Melissa Dyehouse
Learning Systems Institute
Florida State University
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)

[McKay Parent Affidavit](#)

[Update Notification Form](#)

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 at www.floridaschoolchoice.org

McKay Parent Affidavits

Parents and guardians of McKay scholarship students must have a signed and notarized Parent Affidavit on file with the Department affirming the validity of the parent's signature. Be sure to log in to our website and check your "McKay Student List" to find out which of your current students do not have a valid affidavit on file. A "Denied" message usually means that the name on the affidavit does not match the parent name associated with the student. In that case, a new affidavit is required.

Other Resources



The Office of Early Learning is celebrating VPK's 10th birthday this month! VPK programs across the state are invited to participate in a range of events and activities. Three contests offer

or email (mdyehouse@lsi.fsu.edu) or go to:
<http://schoolreporting.net>.

opportunities to win prizes for your classrooms.

You'll find more information about events and contests on the [VPK Birthday Facebook](#) page or the [VPK Birthday News](#) page. Call 866-447-1159 or email VPKQuestions@oel.myflorida.com if you have more questions.

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

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Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Toll-Free Information Hotline: 1-800-447-1636

Fax: 850-245-0875

