



Employee Screening

Remember that private schools accepting state scholarship students must conduct employment history checks for new personnel and use the educator screening tools available through our website.

Be sure to complete the screening before new employees begin to work with students, and remember to document the findings. This employment screening process is in addition to the Level II criminal background screening obtained through the VECHS program. Contact your regional manager if you have questions about either process.

Restrictive Endorsement Requirements

Student scholarship payments for both the FTC and McKay Scholarship programs are made payable to the student's parent or guardian. Remember that Florida law requires parents to restrictively endorse payments to the private school for deposit into the account of the private school. Endorsed scholarship payments are reviewed after each payment period to confirm compliance with the restrictive endorsement requirements. It is strongly recommended that scholarship checks not leave the possession of the private school, and students should not take scholarship checks home for a parent signature.

FTC 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. Approved assessments 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

McKay Upcoming Deadlines

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.

September 15

Date by which requests for use of alternate NRT must be submitted.

October 2

Enrollment deadline for the November 1 McKay payment.

October 3-7

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



an alternate assessment must be submitted to the Department in writing by **September 15, 2016**.

If your school enrolled FTC students last year, don't forget to report student standardized test scores for students in grades 3-10 by **August 15, 2016**. 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

McKay Payment Notes

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.

Florida's Hispanic Heritage Month Contests

Honoring Hispanic American Heroes:

Governor Rick Scott's Hispanic Heritage Month Art Contest for grades K-3 and Essay Contest for grades 4-12 are open to all Florida students. See the [Florida Hispanic Heritage](#) website for submission guidelines and entry forms, and contact Volunteer Florida at (850) 414-7400 with any questions.

The **Coalition of McKay Scholarship Schools** will be hosting the Twelfth Annual Fall Conference on September 30th at the DoubleTree Orlando – East.

“Best Practices for McKay Schools: Business and Curriculum” is the conference theme. Administrators will have the opportunity to:

- learn better skills for marketing their schools,
- receive legal updates on Human Resource practices, Workman's Comp issues, and other legal information
- discuss ways to deal with difficult parents, and
- find grant opportunities and how to write them.

Teachers will have a curriculum strand where they will have the opportunity to:

- learn more skills for teaching social skills and better behavioral habits,
- discuss organizing their own Transition to Work program,
- view classroom technology and apps being used by schools like theirs, and
- learn about the Digital Learning Labs with Florida Virtual Schools.

To learn more about the Coalition and to register for the conference, visit their website at www.mckaycoalition.org

Constitution Day

Prepare for Constitution Day (September 17) and Celebrate Freedom Week (September 26-30) by considering some of the resources available on the Department of Education's website:

[Celebrate Freedom Week Resources](#)

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