



## Apply To Administer the FSA

Florida law provides participating scholarship schools with at least one Florida Tax Credit student the opportunity to apply and participate in administering Florida State Assessments, including End-of-Course Assessments, to all students at the private school. Participating schools enrolling at least one Gardiner Scholarship student may also apply. The application to participate, along with Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the [Department of Education website](#). The application window is open thru March 1, 2017, with school eligibility determinations finalized in August 2017.

## Intent to Participate for 2017-18

Time is running out for students wishing to enter the McKay Scholarship Program for the current school year.

### Filing for the 2016-17 School Year

The last day to file intent for the 2016-17 school year is January 31, 2017. Any new scholarship students who file intent on or before this date must be enrolled by March 2, 2017, to be eligible to receive a fourth quarter scholarship payment on April 1, 2017.

### Filing for the 2017-18 School Year

**Intents filed on or after February 1, 2017, will be for the 2017-18 school year.** These students must be enrolled in a participating private school by August 2, 2017, in order to be eligible for a first quarter scholarship payment on September 1, 2017.

### Enrollment in the current school year with a 2017-18 Intent

Although an upcoming 2017-18 student is not eligible for payment during the current school year, a parent with a valid intent for 2017-

## McKay Upcoming Deadlines

### 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 3-9

Attendance Verification week for the final 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



18 may choose to enroll an eligible student in a participating private school for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year at his or her own expense. Of course, parents also have the option of keeping the student in public school for the rest of the current school year.

### **Current McKay Students**

Please note that a new intent does not have to be filed for a student already participating in the McKay program in a private school. However, all students currently enrolled for the 2016-17 school year, regardless of whether or not they received payment, **must be re-enrolled** by August 2, 2017, to be eligible for a first payment next school year.

## **Compliance Notes:**

### ***Ethics Policy***

Florida law requires private schools participating in any state scholarship program to adopt policies that establish certain minimum standards of ethical conduct for teachers and administrators. The policy must specifically mention a requirement for employee training on the ethical conduct standards. It must also contain the duty of school staff to report alleged employee or administrator misconduct that affects the health, safety, or welfare of a student, as well as the procedures for reporting alleged employee or administrator misconduct.

### ***Health Inspection***

To participate in state scholarship programs, private schools must have on file with our office a current, satisfactory Department of Health Private School Inspection Report. Private schools that store, prepare, or serve food to students must also possess a current and satisfactory Food Service Inspection Report. Contact your county's Department of Health about scheduling inspections well in advance of compliance deadlines, and review the inspection report to make sure your school's name and address is listed correctly.

For more information on these topics, please see the [Compliance Resources](#) available on our website, or contact your regional manager.

National School Choice Week, held this year January 22-28, shines a spotlight on effective education options for every child. NSCW features thousands of special events across the country. The Week is a nonpartisan and nonpolitical public awareness effort. For resources and information on events in your area, see [www.schoolchoiceweek.com](http://www.schoolchoiceweek.com).

## **Black History Month**

The theme for this year's Kindergarten through 12th grade essay and art contests is "A recognition of the African-American role in shaping Florida today." Students are asked to share how African-American Floridians have impacted our state's history and culture. The submission deadlines for the contests is January 20, 2017.

Information about the contests and Florida's Black History Month is available on Florida's Black History Month website [www.FloridaBlackHistory.com](http://www.FloridaBlackHistory.com).

## **USDOE Fellowship Opportunity**

The U.S Department of Education is now accepting applications for the 2017-18 [School Ambassador Fellowship Program](#). Private school educators are invited to apply prior to the January 23rd deadline, using the [online application](#). The goal of the School Ambassador Fellowship is to create a cadre of outstanding educators to inform the program and policy work of the USDOE while expanding Ambassadors' knowledge and expertise as they participate and help lead the national education dialogue.