

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Action Items
December 12, 2006

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed Rule 6A-6.0970, FAC., John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval.

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

1002.39(13), Florida Statutes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this proposed rule governing the John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program is to clarify and establish specific student, school, school district, and state requirements for eligibility, participation, and administration of the John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program. The proposed rule outlines application procedures, administrative requirements, the public school option, development of a matrix of services, scholarship payments, student and private school program eligibility, the complaint and inquiry process, and duties of the Commissioner of Education for the John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program.

Rule development workshops were held in Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando and Ft. Lauderdale on August 28, 29 and 31. Workshops were also held in Orlando, Ft. Lauderdale and Panama City on February 17, 20 and 23. At the workshops, DOE staff presented an overview of the scholarship rulemaking process and reviewed the proposed timelines. Rule text was available at the August workshop. The rule development workshops conducted in February were for the purpose of hearing ideas about scholarship rules and the current workshops focus on proposed language. In addition to providing comments at the workshops, staff encouraged participants to submit comments on the school choice website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-6.0970, FAC., John M. McKay Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Program

Facilitators/Presenters: Virginia Gentles, Executive Director, Office of Parental Choice and Independent Education