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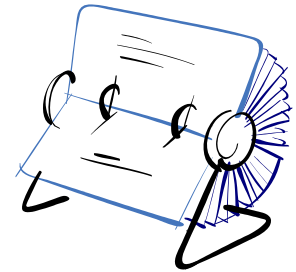
Welcome!

Whether your child is new to the McKay Scholarship Program or is a long-time participant, you may have questions about the program. This newsletter is designed to answer some of those questions and to provide parents with helpful information about scholarship requirements.

Going through Changes? Update your info — it's easy!

If you have changes in your contact information, do let us know right away so we can keep you informed on issues involving your child. You can keep your address, email, and phone number up-to-date through the Parent Login on our main webpage. Once logged in, you'll see: "Click here to Change your Contact Information." Simply enter any changes and click "Save Changes."

If you want to change or correct your name or Social Security Number, though, you'll need to get a Guardian Issue Form from your school. This is the same form that's used to change the person who will be signing the scholarship payment checks. Don't delay in reporting any changes to this critical information, or you just may miss a quarterly payment!



Florida Virtual School (FLVS) And the McKay Scholarship Program

On the Web
at: www.floridaschoolchoice.org

The Florida law that created the McKay Scholarship Program for Students with Disabilities specifies that a scholarship student may take up to two courses from FLVS without jeopardizing scholarship eligibility. However, recent changes to the methodology for reporting and funding FLVS students may affect some McKay students' scholarship amounts. In the 2014-15 school year, scholarship payments will be reduced for students enrolled in or successfully completing FLVS courses. Private school administrators have been advised of these changes, so check with your school's director to find out about the impact FLVS courses would have on your child's scholarship amount.

Money Matters

What is a fee schedule?

As a McKay parent, you are probably aware by now of your child's funding amount and quarterly payments. But where does that money go? How does it get spent?

For answers to those questions, you will want to have a look at your child's **Student Fee Schedule**. The Student Fee Schedule is the list of services that your school creates for your particular child when they enroll him or her. The Fee Schedule can be modified throughout the year as needed.

You can view it by logging on, using the password sent to you at the time your child enrolled. (Go to www.floridaschoolchoice.org, and select Parent Login from the left hand menu. If you do not have your password, please contact us for help.)



The services that you will see on your child's Student Fee Schedule are selected from the private school's **School Fee Schedule**, which includes all the services and fees offered by the school to all students. Think of the School Fee Schedule as a restaurant menu. Your child's Student Fee Schedule would be the meal check listing your selections from that menu.

What might be on your child's Student Fee Schedule? It will, of course, list tuition. But it may also include a number of other academic items or services that relate to your child's education. You may see listed various fees, special programs, tutoring, therapy, or summer school. Schools may also charge for supplies, materials, transportation, uniforms, insurance, field trips, or other items or activities related to the

child's education. (Non-academic items such as meals or day care cannot be included on the Student Fee Schedule.)

The Student Fee Schedule lists the total charges for your child for the school year. If this amount is less than your scholarship, the payment checks will be issued for the lesser amount. If the total comes to more than your scholarship, you will be responsible for coming to an arrangement with the school to deal with the difference. If you have any questions about your child's fee schedule, arrange to discuss them with your school administrator.

Restrictive Endorsement

When a private school receives McKay Scholarship checks, the school is required to stamp the back of each check "For Deposit Only" followed by the name of the school's bank account.

Scholarship checks should not leave the possession of the private school, and students should not take scholarship checks home for your endorsement (signature). The private school should notify you that the checks have arrived and ask you to come in to the school to restrictively endorse (sign) the checks.

It is essential that the parent whose name is on the scholarship check be the individual that endorses the check when received by the private school. Under law, power of attorney cannot be given from the parent to the private school.

You should make sure that the back of the scholarship check states that the money is to be deposited into the private school's account. If not, you should write the statement "For deposit only into the account of (name of private school)" before signing the check. You should also verify that the information on the front of the check is correct.



It is recommended that the back of the McKay Scholarship check state the following:

- Parent Signature
- For Deposit Only
- (Name of School's Bank)

- Into the account of (Name of School/Account Number)

Questions? Please contact us at schoolchoice@fldoe.org or 800.447.1636.
