



Your Questions Answered

Following are questions we have heard from McKay scholarship parents. If you have questions about your child's scholarship, email us at schoolchoice@fldoe.org.

Q. I have been informed that my child's school will be closing its doors before the end of the year. What do I need to do to keep the McKay scholarship?

A. If your school is closing, your child may be transferred to another McKay school. If the original school withdraws your child via our website, the new school can enroll him or her. If you or the new school have questions about the transfer process, feel free to contact us at the number below.

The timing of your transfer can affect scholarship payments. If a student transfers, the first school the student attends for a total of ten days during a payment period is entitled to receive the check for that quarter, and the parent is required to sign it. Often, private schools will come to an agreement to share the scholarship funds when a student transfers, but there is no requirement to do this, and any arrangements must be worked out between the two schools.

Q. I am interested in how my son would score on state assessments. If I take him to a public school to have him participate in testing, will that invalidate his scholarship?

A. Every McKay student is entitled to participate in state testing. You will need to make arrangements well ahead of time with the district so they can include him on their testing list and have test materials for him at the testing site. Participating in state assessments is not regarded as a return to public school.

Scholarship Program Deadlines

Scholarship payments are guided by statutory requirements. If you know a family who is thinking of entering their child in the McKay scholarship program for the first time, you may want to remind them that their intent must be filed by December 3, and the student must be enrolled by January 2, in order to receive the February 1 scholarship payment. The [McKay Scholarship Deadlines Chart](#) is available on our website.

Update Your Info

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."

Q. The school received my child's check, but it has my spouse's name on it. Because of our work schedules, I take the kids to school. Can I sign the check?

A. No, only the person whose name is on the check should sign it. If it is more convenient for you to sign the checks, ask the school to submit a Guardian Issue Form to our office so that future checks are issued in your name. You'll also need to complete a notarized Parent Affidavit in your name.

Q. My daughter would like to study a foreign language, but our private school does not offer that course. Can she take Spanish online without losing her scholarship?

A. McKay Scholarship students may take up to two state-funded virtual school courses each school year without jeopardizing scholarship eligibility. Courses can be taken from [FLVS-Flex](#), or from a district part-time virtual program. Contact the virtual provider for more information and available course options.

Other Resources



Family Network on Disabilities (FND) was founded in 1985 by a group of parents. It is a grassroots organization for persons with disabilities and their families that is family-centered and family-driven. FND is working in communities around Florida helping organize events, delivering free workshops, and providing one on one assistance to families who have children with special needs. To see what they have planned in your area, you can [register](#) on their website at fndusa.org.

Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice

Turlington Building, Suite 1044 | 325 W. Gaines Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

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

Fax: 850-245-0875

