

McKay Scholarship Eligibility State Requirements

In order to be eligible for the McKay Scholarship Program, a student must apply for the program prior to withdrawing from public school. The student must also have an Individual Education Plan (IEP), and:

- Have been enrolled and reported for funding in a Florida public school during the October and February Florida Education Finance Program surveys (Grades K-12); or
- Have been a pre-kindergarten student who was enrolled and reported for funding in a Florida public school during the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program surveys and was at least 4 years old, or
- Have attended the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind during the preceding October and February student membership surveys (Grades K-12).

The School District of Osceola County, Florida McKay Scholarship School Choice Plan 2008-2009

To participate in the McKay Scholarship School Choice Plan, the student must first be determined eligible. This process will occur after the parent/guardian files the Intent to Participate on DOE website at www.floridaschoolchoice.org. The parent/guardian must indicate a desire for public school information during the filing process. This step makes us aware of their interest in the public school option. ESE office personnel will research the eligibility of the student. If the student is eligible, a "Matrix Number" is submitted back to the Florida School Choice website.

For those eligible students whose parent/guardian has indicated a desire for public school information, the parent/guardian will be sent a letter from the ESE Office indicating that the student is **eligible** and requesting the parent/guardian reply to the ESE Office with the school of choice. The letter includes an explanation of the McKay procedures for our district and a copy of the Choice Zones. Their selection will determine if the student is **approved** for the McKay Scholarship public school choice.

To be **approved** for a McKay Scholarship under the Public School Choice Option the following must be true:

- The request must be filed prior to July 3rd.
- The student must reside in Osceola County. This is a change that also affects those who are currently in an Osceola County public school on McKay, but live in another county.
- The school requested must have the program(s) on campus to meet the needs of the student as indicated on his/her IEP.
- The school requested must be in the same McKay zone as the student's assigned school.
- Classroom enrollment will be reviewed prior to final approval of a McKay Scholarship.

If the student is approved, the student will be eligible for transportation provided by the School District.

If a parent/guardian wishes a school not in the same McKay Zone as their home zoned school, the parent/guardian is to follow the procedures for an Out-of-Zone request. To begin the Out-of-Zone process, the parent/guardian must contact the student's current school administration.