



McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program

What is the McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program?

The John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program (McKay Scholarship Program) provides scholarships for eligible students with disabilities to attend an eligible public or private school of their choice. Students with disabilities include K-12 students who are documented as having an intellectual disability; a speech impairment; a language impairment; a hearing impairment, including deafness; a visual impairment, including blindness; a dual sensory impairment; an orthopedic impairment; an other health impairment; an emotional or behavioral disability; a specific learning disability, including but not limited to, dyslexia, dyscalculia, or developmental aphasia; a traumatic brain injury; a developmental delay; or autism spectrum disorder.¹

What options are available to a student with disabilities under the McKay Scholarship Program?

The parent of an eligible student with disabilities may choose from several options:

- ❖ Attendance at another public school within the school district;²
- ❖ Attendance at an eligible public school in an adjacent school district that has space and provides the services identified in the student's individual education plan (IEP);³ or
- ❖ Attendance at an eligible private, sectarian or nonsectarian school.⁴

¹ Section 1002.39(1), F.S.

² Section 1002.39(5)(a)1., F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(2), F.A.C.

³ Section 1002.39(5)(e), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(2), F.A.C. An individual education plan (IEP) is developed for students with disabilities ages three through 21. 34 C.F.R. s. 300.320. An IEP is developed by a team of professionals and the parent. The IEP team must include the parent; at least one Exceptional Student Education (ESE) teacher of the child; at least one general education teacher of the child; a representative of the school district, i.e., a local educational agency representative; and when appropriate, the student with the disability. 34 C.F.R. s. 300.321; rule 6A-6.03028(3)(c), F.A.C. The IEP team develops annual goals, both academic and functional, for the student based on his or her strengths, needs, and the effect of the disability. 34 C.F.R. s. 300.320(a); rule 6A-6.03028(3)(g), F.A.C. Once the goals are determined, the team decides what type of special education services and supplementary aids the student needs, how often, and where the services should be provided, e.g., in the general education class or in an ESE classroom. *Id.*; see also Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Fact Sheet.

⁴ Section 1002.39(2), F.S.

What are the student eligibility requirements under the McKay Scholarship Program?

Any parent of a student with a disability may request and receive a McKay Scholarship for the child to enroll in and attend a private school if the student has:

- ❖ Received specialized instructional services under the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program⁵ during the previous school year and the student has a current IEP developed by the local school board in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education for the McKay Scholarship Program;
- ❖ Spent the prior school year in attendance at a Florida public school or the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind; or
- ❖ Been enrolled and reported by a school district for funding, during the October and February Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) surveys,⁶ in any of the 5 years prior to FY 2010-11; has a current IEP developed by the district school board in accordance with state board rules for the McKay Scholarship Program no later than June 30, 2011; and receives a first-time McKay scholarship for the 2011-12 academic year.⁷

However, a dependent child of a member of the United States Armed Forces who transfers to a Florida school from out of state or from a foreign country due to a parent's permanent change of station orders is exempt from the above-described requirements, but must meet all other eligibility requirements to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program.⁸

“Prior school year in attendance”⁹ means the student was enrolled and reported by:

- ❖ A school district for funding during the preceding October and February FEFP surveys in kindergarten through grade 12, which includes time spent in a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program if funded under the FEFP;
- ❖ The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind during the preceding October and February student membership surveys in kindergarten through grade 12; or

⁵ Section 4, ch. 2010-227, L.O.F., *codified at* s. 1002.66, F.S. In 2010, the Legislature established a specialized instructional services program for children with disabilities as an option under the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education (VPK) Program. Beginning with the 2012-13 academic year, a child who has a disability is eligible for specialized instructional services if the child is eligible for the VPK Program and has a current individual education plan (IEP) developed by the district school board. *Id.*; *see also* s. 1002.53, F.S., and Early Learning – Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program Fact Sheet.

⁶ The Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) is the mechanism used by the state to fund the operating costs of Florida’s school districts. The FEFP bases financial support for education upon individual students participating in certain education programs. FEFP funds are primarily generated by multiplying the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students in each of the funded education programs by cost factors to obtain weighted FTE students. During each of several school weeks, including scheduled intercessions of a year-round school program during the fiscal year, a program membership survey of each school must be made by each district by aggregating the FTE student membership of each program by school and by district. The Department of Education (DOE) establishes the number and interval of membership calculations. s. 1011.62(1)(a), F.S. For the 2010-11 academic year, DOE will conduct four surveys. Reporting Deadlines 2008-09 through 2011-2012, *available at* <http://www.fldoe.org/fefp/pdf/fte-surveydates.pdf>.

⁷ Section 1, ch. 2010-227, L.O.F., *amending* s. 1002.39(2), F.S.

⁸ Section 1002.39 (2)(a), F.S. (flush left provision at the end of the paragraph).

⁹ Section 1, ch. 2010-227, L.O.F., *amending* s. 1002.39(2)(a), F.S.

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- ❖ A school district for funding during the preceding October and February FEFP surveys, was at least 4 years old when the student was enrolled and reported, and was eligible for services under the school attendance requirements for prekindergarten aged children with disabilities.¹⁰

Any parent of a student with a disability may request and receive a McKay Scholarship for the child to enroll in and attend a public school if the parent files a notice of intent with DOE by completing an online application for a McKay Scholarship and the student meets the prior school year in attendance requirement.¹¹ The student must be a current public school student with a disability and an IEP; or if not a current public school student, the parent must have filed a notice of intent while the student was in public school and was a student with a disability and an IEP at the time he or she left public school.¹²

Who is not eligible for a McKay Scholarship?

A student is not eligible for a McKay Scholarship while he or she is:

- ❖ Enrolled in a Department of Juvenile Justice commitment program¹³ or enrolled in the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind;¹⁴
- ❖ Receiving a Florida tax credit scholarship;¹⁵
- ❖ Receiving an Opportunity Scholarship;¹⁶
- ❖ Participating in a home education program¹⁷ or private tutoring program;¹⁸
- ❖ Participating in a state-funded virtual school, correspondence school, or distance learning program for more than two courses per school year;¹⁹ or
- ❖ Not receiving regular and direct contact with a classroom teacher at the private school's physical location.²⁰

What is the term of a McKay Scholarship to a private school?

A McKay Scholarship remains in force until the student returns to a public school, graduates from high school, or reaches the age of 22, whichever occurs first.²¹

¹⁰ Although not required to attend a public school, children with disabilities who have attained the age of 3 years are eligible for admission to public special education programs and related services. *See* s. 1003.21(1)(e), F.S.

¹¹ Rule 6A-6.0970(1)(a) and (b), F.A.C.; s. 1, ch. 201-227, L.O.F., *amending* s. 1002.39(2)(a), F.S.

¹² Rule 6A-6.0970(1)(b), F.A.C.

¹³ Section 1002.39(3)(a), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 1002.39(3)(g), F.S.

¹⁵ Section 1, ch. 2010-24, L.O.F. (transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 220.187, F.S.) *codified at* s. 1002.395, F.S.; *see also* Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program Fact Sheet.

¹⁶ Section 1002.39(3)(c), F.S.; *see also* s. 1002.38, F.S.

¹⁷ Section 1002.39(3)(d), F.S.; *see also* s. 1002.01(1), F.S.

¹⁸ Section 1002.39(3)(e), F.S.; *see also* s. 1002.43, F.S.

¹⁹ Section 1002.39(3)(f), F.S.

²⁰ Section 1002.39(3)(h), F.S.; rule 6A-6.03315(1)(c) and (d), F.A.C.

²¹ Section 1002.39(4)(a), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970, F.A.C.

What are the obligations for participants in the McKay Scholarship Program attending a private school?

The parent of a scholarship student must:

- ❖ Select a private school and apply for admission.²²
- ❖ Request the scholarship at least 60 days before the date of the first scholarship payment.²³
- ❖ Transport the student to the assessment site if the student participates in statewide assessments.²⁴
- ❖ Restrictively endorse the scholarship warrant upon receipt to the private school and may not designate any entity or individual associated with the participating private school as the parent's attorney-in-fact to endorse the warrant.²⁵

The student must maintain attendance at the school throughout the school year, unless excused by the school for illness or other good cause. Both the parent and the student must comply with the private school's published policies.²⁶

What are the school district's obligations under the McKay Scholarship Program?

The school district must:

- ❖ Notify parents by April 1 of each year and within 10 days of the student's IEP meeting of all educational options under the McKay Scholarship Program and of the availability of DOE's telephone hotline and website for additional information on the program.²⁷
- ❖ Complete a matrix of services²⁸ if the student does not have one.²⁹ If the student currently has a matrix of services, the district may only modify it to correct a technical, typographical, or calculation error.³⁰

²² Section 1002.39(9)(a), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(1), F.A.C.

²³ Section 1002.39(9)(b), F.S. If the student is accepted by the private school pending the availability of a space for the student, the parent must notify DOE 60 days prior to the first scholarship payment and before entering the private school in order to be eligible for the scholarship when a space becomes available. Section 1002.39(5)(d), F.S.

²⁴ Section 1002.39(9)(e), F.S.

²⁵ Section 1002.39(9)(f), F.S.

²⁶ Section 1002.39(9)(c) and (d), F.S.

²⁷ Section 1002.39(5)(a)1., F.S.

²⁸ The matrix of services form collects information about the student and his or her exceptionality and contains checklists of services in five domains: curriculum and learning environment; social/emotional behavior; independent functioning; health care; and communication. The matrix of services identifies and documents the services or supports that each exceptional student requires in order for his or her educational needs to be met. Matrixes are completed by trained school personnel at least annually and are based upon a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). Whenever a student's plan is reviewed, the student's matrix of services is also reviewed. Districts must ensure that matrixes reflect current services. *Exceptional Student Education/Florida Education Finance Program (ESE/FEFP) Matrix of Services*, Florida Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, 2004 Revised Edition; reprinted 2006, at 5, 13-16.

²⁹ Section 1002.39(5)(b), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(4), F.A.C.

- ❖ Provide notification to parents of the availability of a reevaluation for the student's disability at least every three years.³¹
- ❖ Provide locations and times for all state assessments to parents who request that the student take statewide assessments.³²
- ❖ Report all students who are attending a private school under the program.³³

Are all private schools required to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program?

No. Private schools are not required to participate in the program. Participation is open to all private schools that wish to take part in the program, as long as the schools meet the eligibility criteria set forth by law.³⁴

What criteria must a private school meet to be eligible to participate in the McKay Scholarship Program?

Participation is open to sectarian and nonsectarian private schools that:

- ❖ Comply with all requirements for private schools participating in state school choice scholarship programs.³⁵
- ❖ Annually provide the parent with a written explanation of the student's progress.³⁶
- ❖ Cooperate with a scholarship student whose parent chooses to have the student participate in the statewide assessment tests.³⁷
- ❖ Submit all documentation to DOE for a student's participation at least 30 days prior to the first quarterly scholarship payment. A student is not eligible to receive a quarterly scholarship payment if the private school fails to meet this deadline.³⁸
- ❖ Maintain a physical location in Florida where a scholarship student regularly attends classes.³⁹

Failure to meet these requirements, as determined by DOE, constitutes a basis for a private school to become ineligible to participate in the program.⁴⁰

³⁰ Section 1002.39(5)(b)2.d., F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(4)(a), F.A.C.

³¹ Section 1002.39(5)(c), F.S.

³² Section 1002.39(5)(f), F.S.

³³ Section 1002.39(10)(c)1., F.S. McKay Scholarship Program students must be reported separately from other students reported for purposes of the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). *Id.*

³⁴ Florida Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, *McKay Scholarship Program FAQs*, <http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/McKay/faqs.asp> (last visited Aug. 23, 2010).

³⁵ Section 1002.39(8)(a), F.S.; rules 6A-6.03315 and 6A-6.0970(6), F.A.C.; *see also* Private School Accountability in State School Choice Scholarship Programs Fact Sheet.

³⁶ Section 1002.39(8)(c)1., F.S.

³⁷ Section 1002.39(8)(c)2., F.S.

³⁸ Section 8, ch. 2010-154, L.O.F., amending s. 1002.39(8)(b), F.S.

³⁹ Section 1002.39(8)(d), F.S.

⁴⁰ Section 1002.39(8), F.S. (flush left provision at the end of the subsection).

Are parents or school districts responsible for transporting McKay Scholarship students to and from school?

If the parents choose the private school option, then the parents are responsible for the student's transportation.⁴¹ If the parents choose a public school option, then the responsibility for transportation varies depending upon the public school option chosen. Listed below are the options and transportation requirements:

- ❖ For a student attending a public school within the school district that is consistent with the school board's choice plan, the school district is responsible for providing transportation to the public school selected by the parent.⁴²
- ❖ For a student attending a public school within the school district that is inconsistent with the school board's choice plan, the parents are responsible for providing transportation.⁴³
- ❖ For a student attending a public school in an adjacent district, the parents are responsible for providing transportation to the school in the adjacent district.⁴⁴

What are the Department of Education's obligations for administering the McKay Scholarship Program?

The DOE must:

- ❖ Provide information to parents and private schools about participation in the McKay Scholarship Program via a toll-free hotline.⁴⁵
- ❖ Determine, in cooperation with the school district, student eligibility for a McKay scholarship.⁴⁶
- ❖ Annually verify the eligibility of private schools.⁴⁷
- ❖ Notify the private school participating in the McKay Scholarship Program the amount of a scholarship within 10 days after receiving the school district's notification of a student's matrix level.⁴⁸
- ❖ Establish a process that allows for individuals to notify DOE of violations of state law relating to program participation.⁴⁹
- ❖ Annually receive and retain from every participating private school a notarized, sworn compliance statement certifying compliance with state laws.⁵⁰

⁴¹ See s. 1002.39(5), F.S.

⁴² Section 1002.39(5)(a)3., F.S.

⁴³ *Id.*

⁴⁴ Section 1002.39(5)(e), F.S..

⁴⁵ Section 1002.39(6)(a), F.S.

⁴⁶ Rule 6A-6.0970(1)(b), F.A.C.

⁴⁷ Section 1002.39(6)(b), F.S.

⁴⁸ Section 1002.39(5)(b)2.c., F.S.

⁴⁹ Section 1002.39(6)(c), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(8), F.A.C.

⁵⁰ Section 1002.39(6)(d), F.S.; rule 6A-6.03315, F.A.C.

- ❖ Cross-check the list of participating scholarship students with public school enrollment lists prior to each scholarship payment to avoid duplication.⁵¹
- ❖ Conduct no more than three random site visits annually to private schools participating in the program. The DOE may not make more than one random site visit each year to the same private school.⁵²
- ❖ Annually report to the Governor and the Legislature DOE's actions in implementing accountability standards.⁵³

What authority does the Commissioner of Education have to enforce private school compliance with the McKay Scholarship Program?

The Commissioner of Education has the authority to:

- ❖ Deny, suspend, or revoke a private school's participation in the McKay Scholarship Program and to take other action as necessary to ensure compliance with the laws governing private schools participating in the program.⁵⁴
- ❖ Deny, suspend, or revoke a private school's participation in the McKay Scholarship Program if the commissioner determines that an owner or operator of the private school is operating or has operated an educational institution in Florida or in another state or jurisdiction in a manner contrary to the health, safety, or welfare of the public.⁵⁵
- ❖ Immediately suspend payment of scholarship funds if there is probable cause to believe that there is an imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the students or if there is fraudulent activity on the part of the private school.⁵⁶

What is the award amount for a McKay Scholarship to a private school?

The scholarship amount is the lesser of the FEFP funding amount the student would receive at her assigned public school or the amount of the private school's tuition and fees.⁵⁷

⁵¹ Section 1002.39(6)(e), F.S.

⁵² Section 1002.39(6)(f)1., F.S.

⁵³ Section 1002.39(6)(f)2., F.S.

⁵⁴ Section 1002.39(7)(a), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(7), F.A.C.

⁵⁵ Section 1, ch. 2010-227, L.O.F., amending s. 1002.39(7), F.S. An "owner" or "operator" includes an owner, operator, superintendent, or principal of, or a person who has equivalent decisionmaking authority over, a private school participating in the McKay Scholarship Program. *Id.*

⁵⁶ Section 1002.39(7)(c), F.S.

⁵⁷ Section 1002.39(10)(b), F.S.

McKay Scholarship Annual Funding⁵⁸			
Academic Year	Total Funding	Students	Scholarship Award
2002-03	\$53 million	9,130	\$6,769
2003-04	\$81.7 million	13,739	\$6,814
2004-05	\$97.2 million	15,910	\$6,835
2005-06	\$107.7 million	17,300	\$6,926
2006-07	\$119.1 million	18,273	\$7,206
2007-08	\$131.3 million	19,852	\$7,295
2008-09	\$133.8 million	20,530	\$7,240
2009-10	\$138.7 million	20,926	\$7,144

How is a McKay Scholarship payment made to a private school?

Upon receiving proper documentation from DOE, the Chief Financial Officer must make the scholarship payments in four equal installments. Scholarship payments must be issued on or before September 1, November 1, February 1, and April 1. The DOE is responsible for verifying the student’s admission to, and continued enrollment and attendance at, the private school.⁵⁹

Each payment must be made by individual warrant payable to the student’s parent and mailed by DOE to the private school. The parent must restrictively endorse the warrant to the private school.⁶⁰ Subsequent to each payment, DOE must request a sample of endorsed warrants from the Department of Financial Services. The DOE must review the samples and confirm compliance with endorsement requirements.⁶¹

What are the demographics of students who received a McKay Scholarship to a private school during the 2009-10 academic year?

During the 2009-10 academic year, 20,926 students received a McKay scholarship. Of that number 69 percent or 14,420 students were male and 31 percent or 6,506 students were female.⁶² The table below identifies the racial/ethnic student enrollment during the 2009-10 academic year.

McKay Student Racial/Ethnic Enrollment⁶³		
Race/Ethnicity	Students	Percentage
White	9,707	46.4%
African American	6,091	29.1%
Hispanic	4,232	20.2%

⁵⁸ Email, Florida Department of Education, *Data for academic years 2002-03 through 2004-05*, (Aug. 25, 2010). The Florida Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, *Choice Facts: John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program, Data for academic years 2005-06 through 2009-10*, (July 2010), available at http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/McKay/files/Fast_Facts_McKay.pdf.

⁵⁹ Section 1002.39(10)(e), F.S.; rule 6A-6.0970(5), F.A.C.

⁶⁰ *Id.*

⁶¹ Section 1002.39(10)(f), F.S.

⁶² Florida Department of Education, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, *Quarterly Report: John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program*, at 2 (June 2010), available at http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/McKay/quarterly_reports/mckay_report_june2010.pdf.

⁶³ *Id.* at 3.

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Asian	170	0.8%
American Indian	39	0.2%
Multiracial	659	3.1%
Unknown	28	0.1%
Total:	20,926	100.0%

What types of private schools did McKay Scholarship students attend during the 2009-10 academic year?⁶⁴

School Type	Schools	Percentage	Students	Percentage
Non-Religious	356	37.1%	9,554	45.1%
Religious	603	62.9%	11,627	54.9%
Total:	959	100.0%	21,181	100.0%

Note: The total number of schools and students reflected here exceeds the actual totals because 255 students attended more than one school during the 2009-10 academic year.

What is the enrollment by grade level of students who received a McKay Scholarship to a private school during the 2009-10 academic year?

McKay Student Enrollment by Grade Level⁶⁵		
Grade Level	Students	Percentage
Kindergarten	411	2.0%
1 st	732	3.5%
2 nd	923	4.4%
3 rd	1,246	6.0%
4 th	1,570	7.5%
5 th	1,849	8.8%
6 th	2,342	11.2%
7 th	2,358	11.3%
8 th	2,389	11.4%
9 th	2,160	10.3%
10 th	1,746	8.3%
11 th	1,754	8.4%
12 th	1,446	6.9%
Total:	20,926	100.0%

⁶⁴ *Id.* at 6.

⁶⁵ *Id.* at 2.

What is the enrollment by primary exceptionality of students who received a McKay Scholarship to a private school during the 2009-10 academic year?⁶⁶

<i>Primary Exceptionality</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Specific Learning Disabled	7,215	34.5%
Language Impaired	1,797	8.6%
Speech Impaired	1,703	8.1%
Emotional/Behavioral Disability	1,308	6.3%
Intellectual Disability	1,470	7.0%
Autism Spectrum Disorder	1,136	5.4%
Other Health Impaired	2,752	13.2%
Others	3,545	16.9%
Total	20,926	100.0%

How many students in each school district received McKay Scholarships during the 2009-10 academic year and what amounts were paid to the private schools they attended?⁶⁷

<i>District</i>	<i>Students</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Payment Amount</i>	<i>Percent age</i>
Alachua	166	0.79%	\$941,799.25	0.68%
Baker	22	0.11%	\$114,857.25	0.08%
Bay	162	0.77%	\$1,042,673.52	0.75%
Bradford	68	0.32%	\$399,775.50	0.29%
Brevard	992	4.74%	\$6,023,932.40	4.34%
Broward	2,302	11.00%	\$16,279,494.33	11.74%
Calhoun				
Charlotte	72	0.34%	\$362,995.75	0.26%
Citrus	38	0.18%	\$202,182.00	0.15%
Clay	298	1.42%	\$1,767,773.32	1.27%
Collier	135	0.65%	\$1,162,017.25	0.84%
Columbia	131	0.63%	\$728,473.25	0.53%
Dade	4,070	19.45%	\$29,446,996.01	21.23%
DeSoto				
Dixie	41	0.20%	\$265,995.75	0.19%
Duval	2,872	13.72%	\$18,748,334.32	13.52%
Escambia	210	1.00%	\$1,164,435.02	0.84%
Flagler				

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 4.

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 1.

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Gadsden	80	0.38%	\$398,565.25	0.29%
Gilchrist	31	0.15%	\$157,101.25	0.11%
Glades				
Gulf				
Hamilton	13	0.06%	\$58,661.25	0.04%
Hardee				
Hendry				
Hernando	76	0.36%	\$426,225.00	0.31%
Highlands	50	0.24%	\$258,442.27	0.19%
Hillsborough	915	4.37%	\$6,206,687.34	4.48%
Indian River	51	0.24%	\$255,525.00	0.18%
Jackson	19	0.09%	\$94,315.25	0.07%
Jefferson				
Lafayette				
Lake	196	0.94%	\$1,060,123.71	0.76%
Lee	341	1.63%	\$2,351,224.75	1.70%
Leon	347	1.66%	\$2,165,039.68	1.56%
Levy	85	0.41%	\$431,834.25	0.31%
Liberty				
Madison	19	0.09%	\$86,276.00	0.06%
Manatee	417	1.99%	\$2,992,788.86	2.16%
Marion	153	0.73%	\$863,372.89	0.62%
Martin	52	0.25%	\$313,742.25	0.23%
Monroe				
Nassau	54	0.26%	\$296,108.90	0.21%
Okaloosa	188	0.90%	\$1,216,761.38	0.88%
Okeechobee	20	0.10%	\$86,023.00	0.06%
Orange	1,667	7.97%	\$11,375,022.09	8.20%
Osceola	357	1.71%	\$2,029,359.25	1.46%
Palm Beach	972	4.64%	\$6,179,424.93	4.46%
Pasco	371	1.77%	\$2,486,947.63	1.79%
Pinellas	845	4.04%	\$5,418,605.16	3.91%
Polk	396	1.89%	\$2,273,443.50	1.64%
Putnam	28	0.13%	\$165,611.50	0.12%
St. Johns	83	0.40%	\$662,617.25	0.47%
St. Lucie	185	0.88%	\$1,113,074.75	0.80%
Santa Rosa	34	0.16%	\$178,134.50	0.13%
Sarasota	285	1.36%	\$2,100,385.75	1.51%
Seminole	461	2.20%	\$3,157,629.75	2.28%
Sumter	24	0.11%	\$103,883.25	0.07%
Suwannee	62	0.30%	\$287,504.75	0.21%
Taylor	13	0.06%	\$62,461.00	0.05%
Union	15	0.07%	\$82,352.50	0.06%
Volusia	335	1.60%	\$2,066,986.72	1.49%
Wakulla	22	0.11%	\$83,159.75	0.06%

Walton	16	0.08%	\$92,530.00	0.07%
FAU LAB PBCH				
FAU LAB STL				
FSU LAB LEON				
FSU LAB BRWD				
Total	20,926	100.00%	\$138,680,127.73	100.0%

Note: Districts left blank indicate that less than 11 students in the district participated in the McKay Scholarship Program. These students are not displayed, but calculated in the total in order to protect student confidentiality.

Has any research been done on the McKay Scholarship Program?

Yes. In the 2010 study entitled, “Reforms With Results: What Oklahoma can learn from Florida’s K-12 education revolution,” researchers make the case for enacting Florida’s K-12 education reforms in Oklahoma. The Oklahoma legislature passed a private school choice program for children with disabilities in 2010 based on the McKay Scholarship Program. The report states that Florida’s children with disabilities score substantially higher than those in Oklahoma after a decade of strong progress and these children have had the opportunity to receive a scholarship to attend the public or private school of their choice for many years. This program has been a tremendous success as almost 21,000 children with disabilities use McKay Scholarships, making it the nation’s largest voucher program. Moreover, McKay parents express strong support for the program.⁶⁸

Where can I get additional information?

Florida Department of Education

Office of Independent Education & Parental Choice
(850) 245-0502
Toll-Free Information Hotline: (800) 447-1636
www.floridaschoolchoice.org

Florida House of Representatives

Education Committee
(850) 488-7451
<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/>

⁶⁸ Ladner, Matthew, *Reforms with Results: What Oklahoma can learn from Florida’s K-12 education revolution*, The Foundation for Educational Choice State Research, at 15 (July 2010), available at <http://www.edchoice.org/CMSModules/EdChoice/FileLibrary/543/Reforms-With-Results---What-Oklahoma-can-learn-from-Florida-s-K-12-education-revolution.pdf>.

