

FACT SHEET

for Families

Family and School Partnership
for Student Achievement Act

Introduction

This fact sheet is for families with children in all grade levels. It is designed to help you understand the Family and School Partnership for Student Achievement Act, a new law passed by the 2003 legislature.

Purpose

This new law was created to:

- Provide parents with specific information about their child's educational progress.
- Provide parents with detailed information about their choices and opportunities for involvement in their child's education.
- Provide positive strategies for building and strengthening partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, district school superintendents, and other personnel.

What Research Says About Family Involvement

Over 30 years of research has proven:

When parents **talk** to their children about school, **expect** them to do well, help them **plan for college or a career**, and make sure that **out-of-school activities are constructive**, their children tend to do well in school and in life.

Some of the Requirements of the Law

School districts must:

- Adopt school board rules that promote family and community involvement.
- Develop and distribute a parent guide, written in parent friendly language.
- Develop and distribute a parent involvement self-assessment checklist.
- Train teachers to partner with families.

The Department of Education must:

- Establish a parent-response center to provide assistance to parents and families in answering questions and resolving issues related to their child's education. See back for more details.



If you have any questions about the Family and School Partnership for Student Achievement Act or for information on family and community involvement, contact:

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Family and Community Outreach

325 West Gaines Street, Suite 544
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Phone: (850) 245-0847 or Suncom 205-0847, Fax: (850) 245-0849

<http://www.firn.edu/doe/family>

www.fldoe.org

Florida Department of Education Parent Response Center

Parents make choices for their children every day. Many of these involve school issues, and sometimes additional information is needed to help parents make the best decisions. The Florida Department of Education is here to serve you!

Si usted no habla inglés, puede llamar 1-800-206-8956.

For Information on:

***Read to Learn*..... www.Read-To-Learn.org**

- Information on 3rd Grade Promotion and Retention

***Exceptional Student Education*..... 1-850-245-0475**

- Autistic
- Developmentally Delayed (Prekindergarten)
- Dual-Sensory Impaired (Deaf-Blind)
- Emotionally Handicapped or Severely Emotionally Disturbed
- Gifted
- Hearing Impaired (Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing)
- Homebound or Hospitalized
- Mentally Handicapped (Educable, Trainable, or Profound)
- Physically Impaired (including Other Health Impaired)
- Specific Learning Disabled
- Speech or Language Impaired
- Visually Impaired (Blind or Partially Sighted)

***School Choice* 1-800-447-1636**

- Supplemental Educational Services
- Opportunity Scholarships
- McKay Scholarships
- Charter Schools
- Virtual Schools
- Home Education

***Limited English Proficiency* 1-800-206-8956**

- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

***Financial Aid/Scholarships for College* 1-888-827-2004**

- Florida Bright Futures
- Florida Student Assistance Grant (FSAG)
- Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG)

***Community College Information* 1-850-245-0407**

***State University Information*..... 1-850-245-0466**

***Transportation* 1-850-245-9795**

***Safe and Healthy Schools*..... 1-850-245-0416**

***Student Discipline* 1-850-245-0479**

***FCAT/Statewide Assessment*..... 1-850-245-0513**

***Family and Community Outreach*..... 1-850-245-0847**

***General Information* 1-888-665-5055**

***Student Services* 1-850-922-3727**