

## STATE TERMS

### **McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities:**

The McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program expands statewide the school choice program originally created in 1999 as a pilot program. The scholarships are available 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 or language impairment; a hearing impairment, including deafness; a visual impairment, including blindness; a dual sensory 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.

### **Response to Intervention (RtI) in Florida**

Defined as the change in behavior or performance as a function of an intervention (Gresham, 1991). The RtI model is a multi-tiered approach to providing high quality instruction and intervention matched to student needs, and using learning rate over time and level of performance to inform instructional decisions. RtI involves the systematic use of assessment data to most efficiently allocate resources in order to improve learning for all students.

### **Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS):**

Provides diagnostic and instructional support services to district exceptional student education programs and families of students with exceptionalities statewide. At the local level, this program is administered at the public school level.

### **Individual Education Program Plan (IEP):**

A written plan developed by the parents and the schools special education team that specifies the students' academic goals and the method to obtain these goals.

### **Step Up For Students (a.k.a Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship):**

A program created to help alleviate the enormous educational challenges faced by children in Florida who live near poverty. The program provides Tax Credit Scholarships to students in K-12 who come from low-income families. These scholarships allow the students to consider a private school or an out-of-district public school that may better suit their individual needs. Scholarships are awarded to students whose families provide documentation that they meet federal guidelines for the national free or reduced lunch program.