

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Family Empowerment Scholarship
3 Program; amending s. 1002.394, F.S.; requiring private
4 schools participating in the Family Empowerment
5 Scholarship Program to provide specified information
6 in writing to certain parents before their student's
7 initial enrollment in the school; providing private
8 school requirements relating to certain services;
9 providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 **Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (9) of section**
14 **1002.394, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

15 1002.394 The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.—

16 (9) PRIVATE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY AND OBLIGATIONS.—To be
17 eligible to participate in the Family Empowerment Scholarship
18 Program, a private school may be sectarian or nonsectarian and
19 must:

20 (d) Before a student's initial enrollment, provide to the
21 parent, in writing, For a student determined eligible pursuant
22 to paragraph (3) (b), discuss the school's academic programs and
23 policies, specialized services, code of conduct, and attendance
24 policies, and specialized services and therapies offered at the
25 school. A private school may update the specialized services and

26 therapies offered once per school year or if the school district
27 updates its list of equitable services offered, whichever comes
28 first. In addition, within 30 days after the school district
29 provides the student with a private school services plan, each
30 parent of a student with an individualized education plan,
31 education plan, English language learner plan, or 504 plan must
32 be informed of what modifications, accommodations, and therapies
33 included in the student's plan will be honored ~~before enrollment~~
34 ~~with the parent to determine which programs and services may~~
35 ~~meet the student's individual needs.~~

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37 If a private school fails to meet the requirements of this
38 subsection or s. 1002.421, the commissioner may determine that
39 the private school is ineligible to participate in the
40 scholarship program.

41 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.