Means-tested school voucher programs: Student selection and competitive responses

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Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program

- Signed into law spring 2001, first enrolled students in 2002-03
- Means-tested: family incomes <185% of federal poverty line
- Required to have been in FL public school in previous year or entering K-5 (initially, K-1)
- Voucher for $4880 for new students (initially $3500)
  - Covers 90% of tuition for religious elementary schools
- Currently serves about 51,075 students
Effects on public school test scores

“Density” measure of competition. Y axis represents standard deviation of student standard test scores (x100). X axis represents fall of school-year.
Evidence suggests no cream-skimming, both in terms of statewide comparisons…

2006-2007 math percentile score

![Graph showing 2006-2007 math percentile score with lines for participants and non-participants.]

2007-08 program newcomers
and within their sending schools...

Within-school quintile ranks in 2006-07: math

2007-08 program newcomers

-新参与者
-非参与者

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Findings presented are based on:


Participation: Public school academics

2006-07 school grades from FL DOE

Participation: Public school climate

School incidents and suspension rates (per 100 students)

*** p<.001, ** p<.01, *p<.05, +p<.10. Source: Florida School Indicator Reports, 2007-2008. Standard errors for t-tests clustered at school level.
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and within their sending schools…

Within-school quintile ranks
in 2006-07: reading

2007-08 program newcomers

new participants
non-participants