

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship

Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options

(FTC/FES-E0)

March 13th, 2025

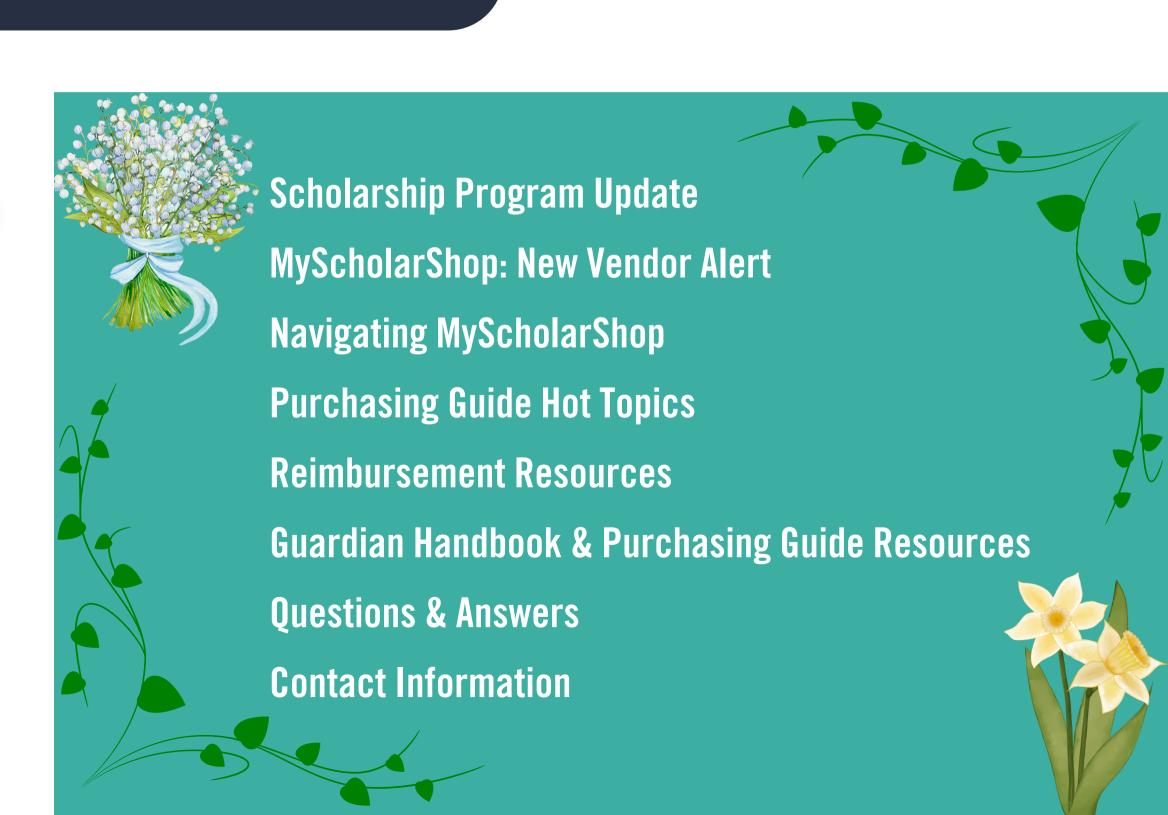
Presented by Step Up For Students





Agenda







Overview of Scholarship Programs

<u>FES-UA:</u> Students from age 3 through grade 12 or age 22, whichever comes first, who have a specific diagnosis or have an IEP.

<u>FTC/FES-EO:</u> You can use the scholarship to attend an eligible private school, and any remaining funds can be accessed through your education savings account to further support your child's educational needs.

FTCPEP: Parent-directed learning for Florida students who are not enrolled full-time in a private or public school.

New Worlds: The program benefits VPK and K-5 public school students who struggle early in reading and/or math skills.

<u>Transportation Stipend:</u> Supports the transportation costs associated with traveling to a different public school than the one the student has been assigned for K-8.





The FTC/FES-EO Renewal Application deadline is April 30th!

If you **accept** a scholarship, you will receive either confirmation of the award OR notice that the scholarship program has reached capacity. This notification will be sent by email.



If you **decline** the scholarship, your student will be withdrawn from the scholarship program. If interested, you will then be able to apply through another scholarship program for this student. Reapplying for the same scholarship or another scholarship will reset your current priority status, and you will be considered a 'New' applicant.



Click the link or scan the QR code below to review the required application documents.



New & Renewal Student

Application Checklist



2025-26 RENEWAL STUDENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Renewing your child's scholarship for a Private School (FTC/FES-EO), Unique Abilities (FES-UA), or PEP Scholarship requires certain documents for review and this guide is here to help you gather everything you need. If your student received funds in 2024-25, they're considered a renewal student.

Proof of Florida Residency:

Proof of Residency requires one document from Column A <u>or</u> two different documents from Column B. All documents must be current (dated within two months for recurring bills or statements), valid, and match the parent's or guardian's (primary or secondary) full name and the physical address on the application.

Column A Upload a copy of one of these documents	Column B Upload a copy of two of these documents	
Utility bill (electric, gas, water)	Florida Driver's License or state-issued ID card	
Mortgage statement or residential lease agreement	Paystub	
Proof of current government benefits (Social Security, Veterans Affairs, Disability, Medicare, Section 8/HUD, TANF, SNAP, DCF correspondence)		
Homestead or Property tax statement/assessment		
Permanent Change of Station (PCS) military orders*	Property Deed	
Verification of homelessness	Please note: Both documents from Column B need to be from the same guardian and must be from different categories.	
Migrant Address Verification Letter		

^{*}Active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who do not have a Florida residential address at the time of application but have received Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders must provide a copy of their PCS orders in the application documents and list the Florida address of the unit to which they are being assigned or from which they are being relieved.

Social Security Number

A Social Security Number will need to be entered for you and your student.

Note: FES applications require student social security numbers. If you or your student do not have a Social Security Number, leave this question blank. Your student will only be considered for a Private School Scholarship (FTC).

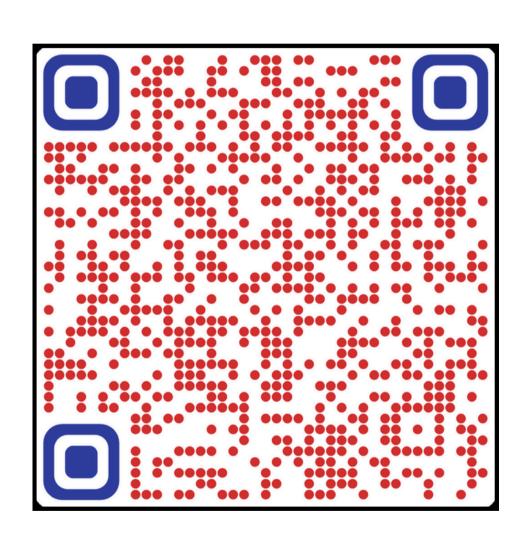
Diagnosis Documentation:

Additional documentation may be necessary for certain Unique Abilities Scholarship (FES-UA) applications. If your student previously qualified for the FES-UA scholarship under one of the following categories, you must submit documentation to demonstrate the student qualifies under an eligible diagnosis for the 2025-26 school year:

- Students who qualified as "high-risk" and who are turning 6 on or before September 1, 2025
- Students who qualified based on being hospitalized or homebound



Click the link or scan the QR code below to review the Renewal Application process.

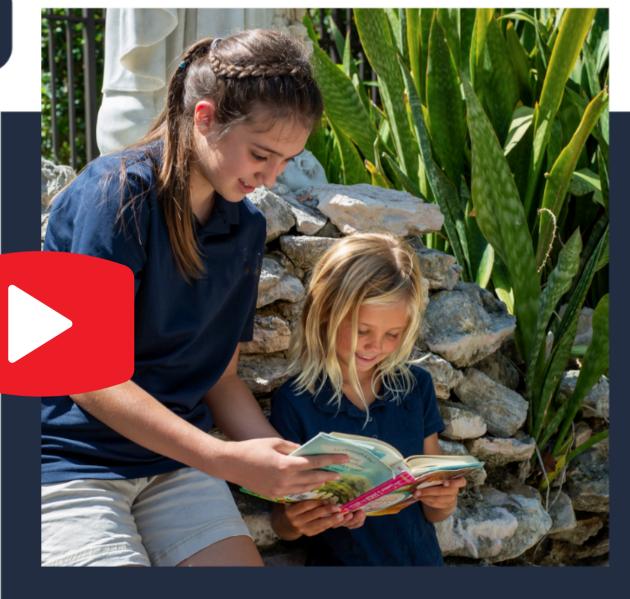


Renewal Application Process



Renewal Application Process 2025-2026

Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship, Family
Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options
(FES-EO),the Personalized Education Program
(PEP) Scholarship





What is my ScholarSHOP?

Benefits of MyScholarShop

- MyScholarShop vendors are paid directly through your child's scholarship account with no out-of-pocket costs.
- No reimbursement paperwork is needed.

How Does MyScholarShop Work? "Pick it, Click it, and Ship it"

Search for what you need as you would on any online store and find the items you want. Mark them as a favorite for later, and check them out when you're ready. MyScholarShop will do the rest, including checking to ensure you have available funds. Don't forget to verify your shipping address before checking out!

You are not obligated to use MyScholarShop. You can purchase pre-approved instructional materials and curricula directly from vendors and then apply for reimbursement.



noeo science



MyScholarShop Vendor Alert

Company Name	Description of Services	Website
yoto	Yoto is a screen-free audio player for children, offering stories, music, and educational content. It encourages learning, confidence, and independent play, covering topics like phonics, languages, and math with hundreds of hours of activities and games.	<u>https://us.yotoplay.com/</u>
OUT NEW HOMESCHOOL ACADEMY	Our engaging video-based science curriculum for families combines a Christian worldview with vibrant visuals to simplify learning. It includes hands-on activities, virtual mentors passionate about science, and curated reading lists to deepen understanding and encourage exploration of complex topics.	https://journeyhomescho olacademy.com/
	Noeo combines science and fun by providing a comprehensive course with experiments and living books. Each Noeo Box contains materials for over 70 experiments using common household items, eliminating shopping trips and allowing hands-on practice. It simplifies lesson planning by coordinating experiments, readings, and reviews into	https://noeoscience.com ?srsltid=AfmBOooB-

easy-to-follow lessons. Living books inspire curiosity and discovery

scheduling to accommodate varying intensities and unexpected life

events. Designed for multiple grades, Noeo allows siblings to learn

together through shared books and experiments.

with engaging narratives and illustrations. The program offers flexible

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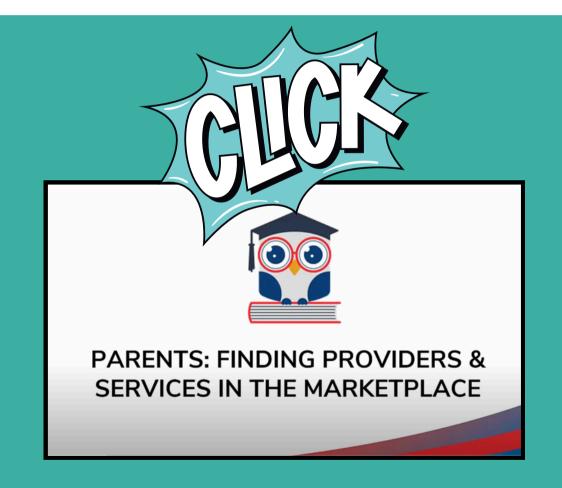
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MyScholarShop Resources



Navigating MyScholarShop in EMA



Parents: Finding Services and Providers in the Marketplace





Purchasing Guide
Hot Topics



Wi-Fi /Internet Services Physical Education Sports Education

FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg. 10-12



FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg.10

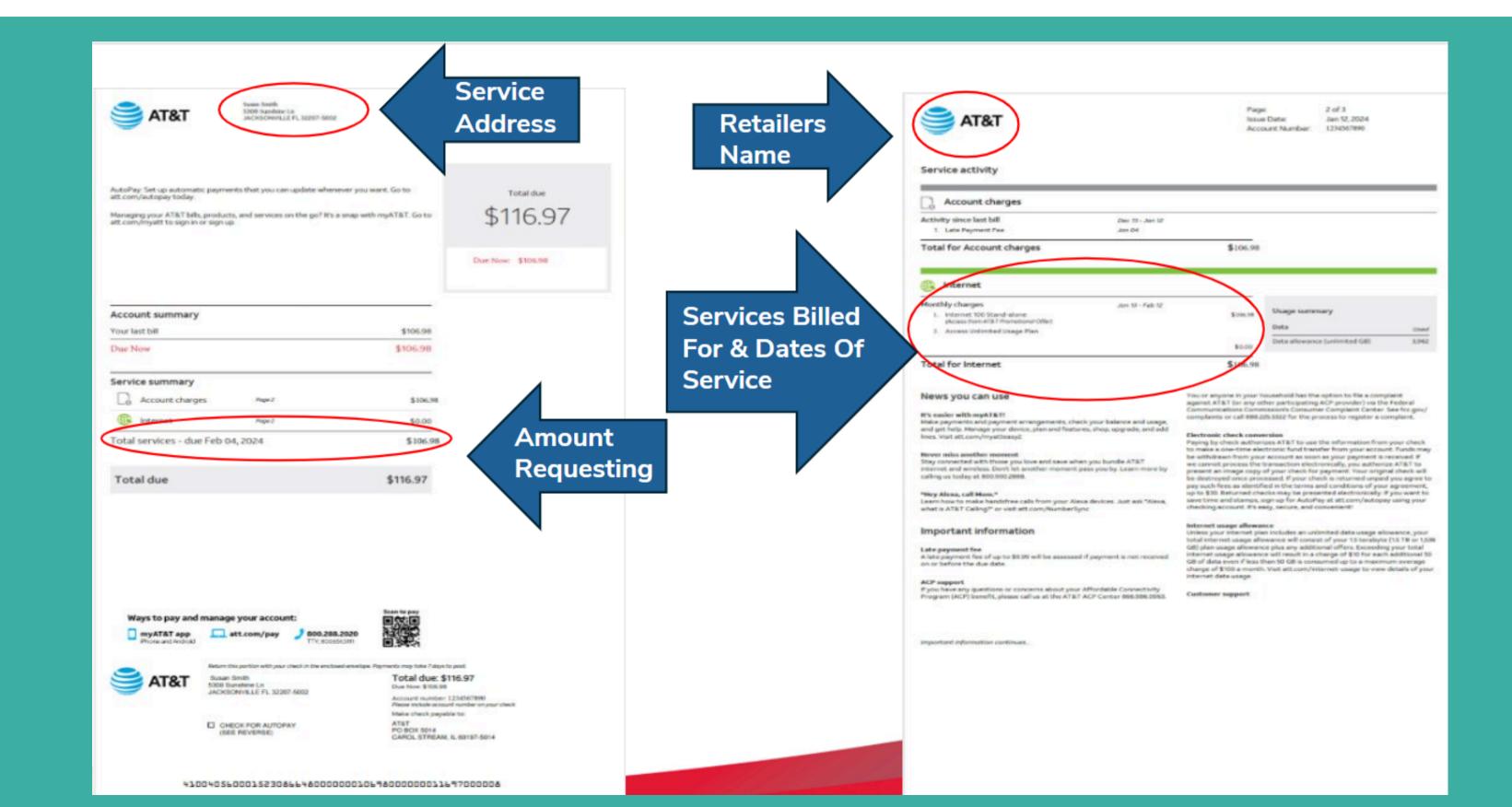
Wi-Fi And Internet Services



Wi-Fi & Internet Services What's Covered?

- In-home internet services including Mobile Hot Spot at the Florida residential address associated with their student's scholarship application.
- Modem or router rental from the internet service provider and billed with a monthly internet service is also eligible.







FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg. 11-12



Ping Pong Table



Air Hockey



Foosball Table /Table Sports



Basketball Shooting Game



Stand Up Paddleboard



Surfboard



Kayak & Canoe



Boogieboard & Skim Board



Skateboard



Sports Uniforms

Examples Of Approved Physical Education Expenses



Individual Exercise Trampoline



Sports Equipment (Balls, Goals,





Gym/Fitness Memberships or Class Passes (for Student Only)



On Demand Fitness Classes

Adaptive exercise equipment is eligible with Pre-Authorization



Swing Set





Ineligible Physical Education Items

- Motorized equipment (treadmills or walking pads are eligible)
- Trampolines (individual exercise trampolines are eligible)
- Motorized Boats
- Motorized scooters or rideons (including golf carts)
- In-Ground or Above Ground Swimming Pools
- Single-admission leisure events (including equipment rental)
- Activities occurring outside of the state of Florida require a Pre-Authorization
- Pool Tables

FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg. 11-12

<u>Important Items To Note</u>

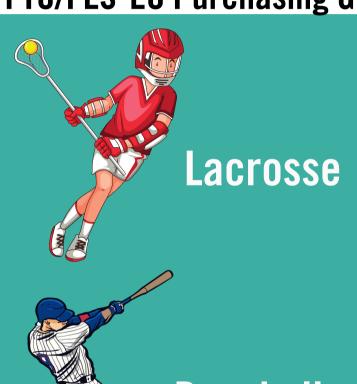
- Frequency of Purchase: Once every two (2) years; however, the devices may be eligible for replacement sooner with preauthorization.
- Adaptive exercise equipment is eligible with pre-authorization.
- A pre-authorization is required for P.E. activities occurring outside of the State of Florida.



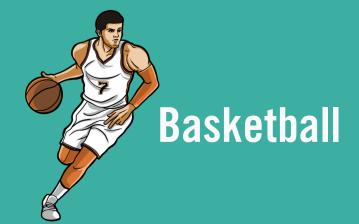


Examples Of Approved Sports Education Activities

FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg. 11-12



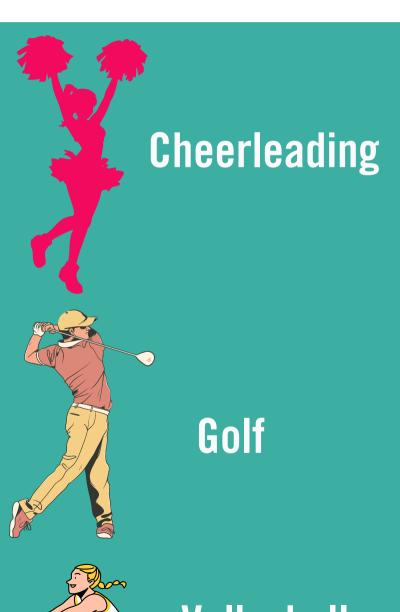




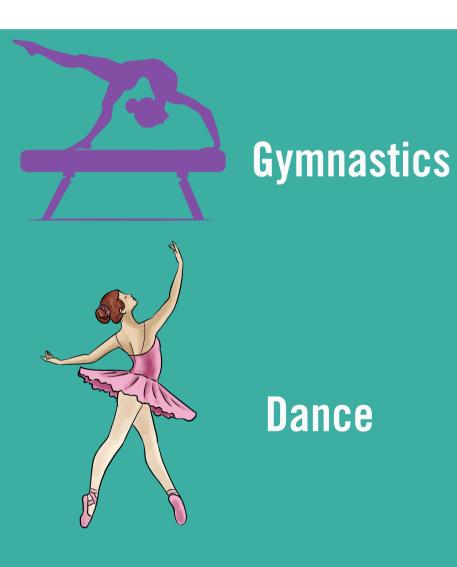
















FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide pg. 11-12

<u>Approved Sports Education</u>

- Authorized P.E. expenses include sports lessons, fees, or equipment (subject to manufacturer's age recommendations).
- Sports lessons (including individual training or group trainings).
- Team fees (including registration, equipment rental, and competition fees).
- Dance competition are approved under the PE-Stand-alone athletic events category.



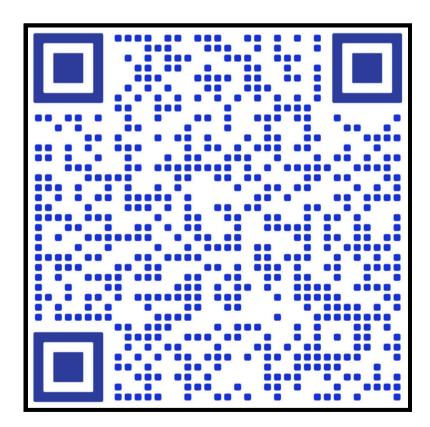
- Stand-alone athletic Event Fees (including foot or bike race registrations, endurance events, and Special Olympics Registrations).
- Gym/fitness memberships or "Class Passes" (for the student only), including on-demand fitness classes.
- Specialized or Sport Specific Footwear.





Educational Benefit Form Explained

Please ensure all necessary questions are thoroughly answered and a detailed description is given for the educational benefit of that item, lesson, field trip.



Educational Benefit Form

Sample of Educational Benefit Form



Educational Benefit Form

Student Name: Johnny Doe

Student ID: 1234567890

Item for which reimbursement is requested (the item you purchased or plan to purchase):

Music Lessons

What is the Educational Benefit of this item?

Music lessons provide numerous educational benefits for Johnny. Playing the bass helps him develop motor skills, such as hand-eye coordination, while also fostering discipline and organizational abilities through consistent practice. Additionally, music training supports his reading development, which is especially beneficial in managing his dyslexia. By engaging in lessons, Johnny also improves his social skills, gaining confidence and learning to collaborate with others. Overall, these lessons contribute to his cognitive, academic, and personal growth.

I affirm scholarship program funds are used only for authorized purposes as described in ss. 1002.394(4) or 1002.395(6), F.S., as applicable, and serve the listed student's educational needs.

Parent Name: Jane Doe

Parent Signature: Tane Doe

PLEASE NOTE: Any violation of the FES/FTC scholarship statutes, rules, policies, or procedures may result in the loss of the scholarship, ineligibility for future scholarships, or financial or criminal penalties. Please see the Parent Handbooks for <u>FES-UA</u> or <u>FES-EO/FTC/PEP</u>.



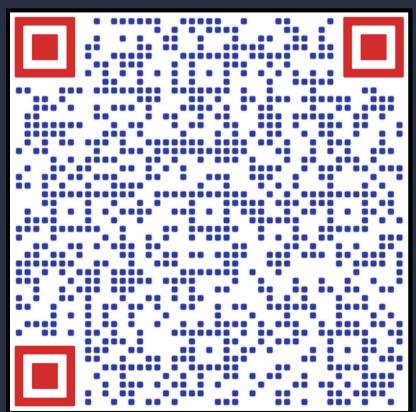
Reimbursement Resources

Reimbursement Guide

A step by step guide to submitting a Reimbursement in EMA

Please scan the QR code or you can click the link to access the

presentation



Guardians Reimbursement Guide

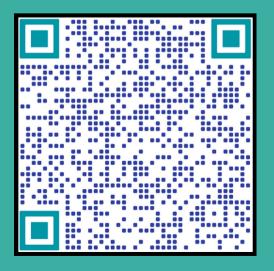
Pre-Authorization

A step by step guide to submitting a Pre-Authorization in EMA Parent/Guardian:
How to Submit a
Pre-Authorization
in EMA

Pre-Authorization Presentation YouTube Video

Please scan the QR code below or click the link to access the presentation.

Additionally, you can click the link on the right to access the YouTube video explaining this process.



Pre-Authorization Presentation



Guardian Handbook & Purchasing Guide Resources



Please scan the QR code or you can click the link to access the Guardian Handbook and or the Purchasing Guide

2024-25 owerment Scholarship for Educational Options Personalized Education Program Purchasing Guide

FTC/FES-EO Guardian

Handbook



Attendance Policy



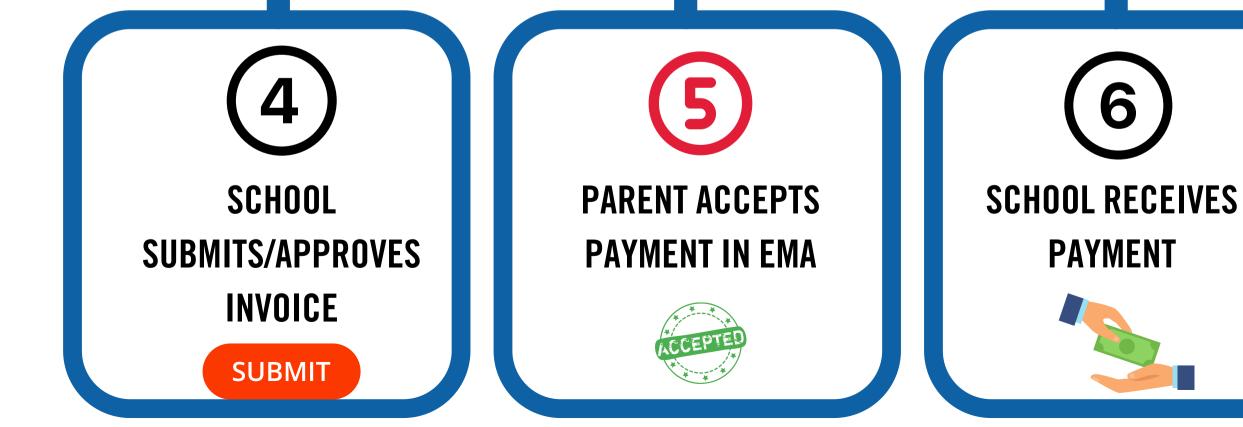
Statute: 1003.24

FTC/EO Parent Handbook p. 33

Parents/guardians must adhere to the attendance policy set forth by their child's school, as outlined in the school's attendance policy. Step Up for Students does not establish or have influence over the attendance policies of participating eligible private schools. It is the responsibility of private schools to comply with the compulsory attendance regulations established by the Department of Education.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO ENROLLMENT WITH STEP UP?



















At this time we do not have the staffing for live Q&A sessions during the webinars but all questions turned in after the webinar are reviewed and we do our best to answer them in the following month's webinar.





Q: If I unenroll my student from a private school, how long do I have to choose another private school?

A: You have 30 days to enroll your student in a new private school. If you have not enrolled your student within 30 days your remaining scholarship funds will be returned to the state.

Q: What is the scholarship amount for my county?

A: The 2025-26 award amounts are not available at this time. They should be released later in the summer after the governor signs the budget.





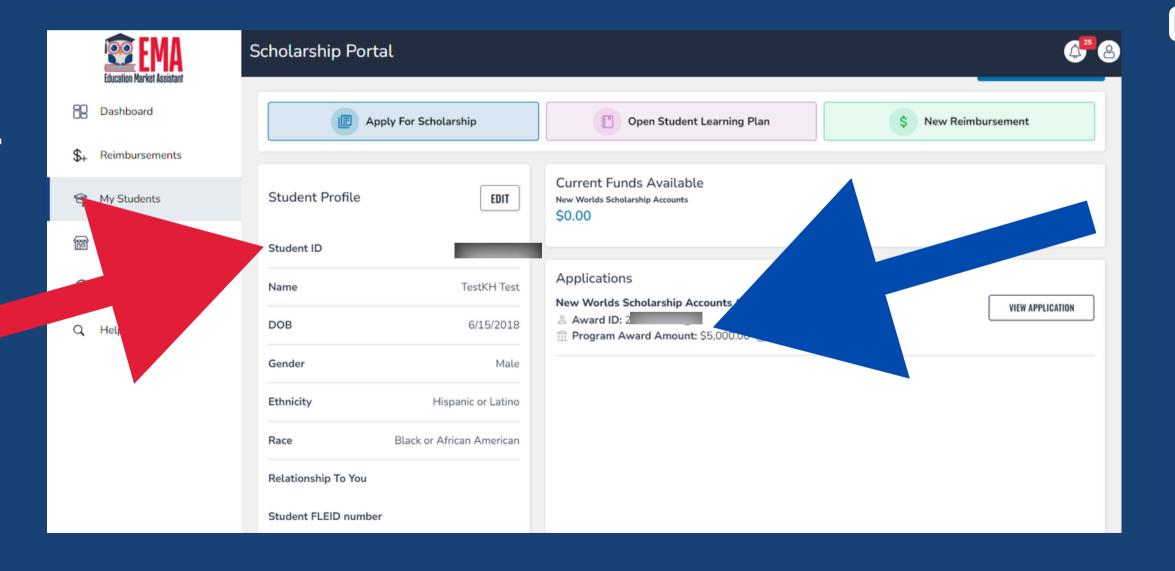
Q: I'm an active-duty military and a resident of Florida, but I've been assigned to a base outside of Florida and plan to move soon. Can my children still keep their scholarship?

A: Yes, as long as Florida residency is legally maintained. Please note this option is only available to renewal students on the FES-UA or PEP scholarships. Active-duty military with change of station orders out-of-state may apply for, or renew their FES-UA or PEP scholarships, if they can prove maintenance of Florida residency. You will not be eligible to keep FTC or FES-EO scholarships to attend private schools out-of-state.



Award ID vs Student ID

Student ID:
Provide this number
when speaking with
the Engagement
Center



Award ID:
Give this number to an eligible private school of your choice for enrollment. This number changes yearly.





We would appreciate your input on the Guardian handbook. Please click <u>here</u> to provide your feedback.



FTC/FES-EO/PEP Parent/Guardian Handbook Feedback 2024-25

Parent/Guardian First Name *	
Parent/Guardian Last Name *	
Parent/Guardian Email *	
Please provide the email addres	s associated with your EMA account.
Student ID *	
If you have multiple students on needed.	an FTC/FES-EO/PEP Scholarship, only one Student ID is
Did your family utilize the FTC/F (2023-24 school year or earlier)	FES-EO/PEP Scholarship for the previous school year? *
Select	▼
How helpful did you find the FT0 1= Not helpful at all 5= Very helpful	C/FES-EO/PEP Parent/Guardian Handbook? *
Select	•
How easy was it to find the info	rmation you were looking for? *
1 = Not easy at all 5 = Very easy	
Select	▼

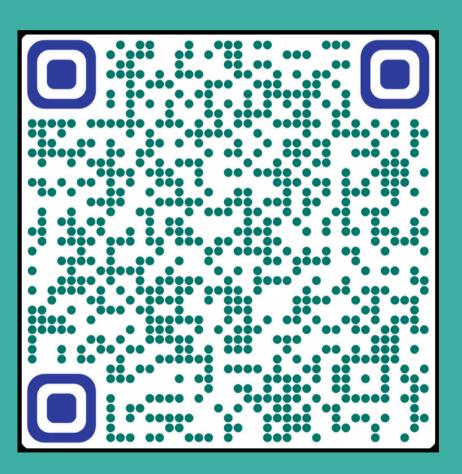




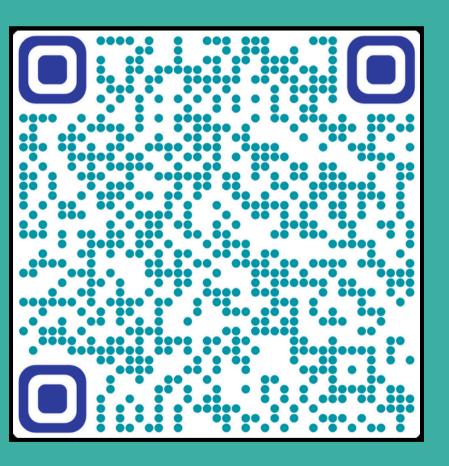
Previous FTC/E0 Open Houses



December Open House



January Open House



February Open House



Looking Ahead: Here are the registration links for the upcoming FES-UA, PEP, NWSA Open Houses



New World Open House
May 14, 2025



FTC/FES-EO Open House
April 10, 2025



March 20, 2025



PEP Open House March 27, 2025





Step Up For Students empowers families to pursue and engage in the most appropriate learning options for their children.



Step Up For Students

@stepup4students · 10.3K subscribers · 72 videos

Step Up For Students empowers parents to pursue and engage in the most appropriate lea...more

stepupforstudents.org







Need resources to learn more about your scholarship? Subscribe to our YouTube Channel today!



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Applications are officially open, but you have time and we will be here to support you every step of the way!

Deadlines to remember for 2025-26

Renewal Applications are due February 1-April 30

Private Schools, Unique Abilities, PEP

New Application due dates:

Private Schools: February 1-November 15

Unique Abilities: February 1-November 15

PEP: February 1-April 30



Contact Us

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm EST



Chat with us <u>sufs.org</u>





Thank you for attending!

Upcoming webinar: April 10, 2025

Registration Link