

### **OPEN HOUSE** Transportation



## April 16, 2025

## **Presented by Step Up For Students**





Agenda



- Communications
- Legislative Updates
- Transportation Stipend Eligibility
- Scholarship Updates
- Funding
- Q&A
- Resources
- Closing

### s pend Eligibility es



## Communications

Subject: 🚍 Application Process Update

Date: 3/13/2025



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Step Up For Students would like to inform you that the review process for 2024-25 Transportation Stipend applications is taking longer than expected.

Please note: Step Up works with the Florida Department of Education to process applications. This process may take several months. Step Up will send application status updates to the email address associated with your EMA account. You may also log in to EMA to view the status of your application at any time.

### Questions?

Chat with a live agent at <u>www.sufs.org</u>.
Please <u>click here</u> to view our contact information.

Thank you,

Step Up For Students







# When will the governor sign the budget?



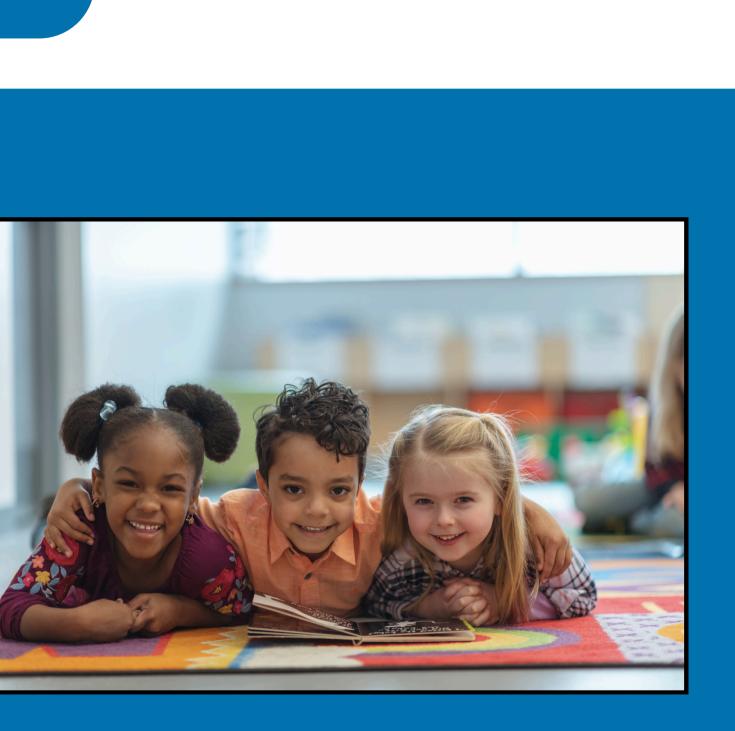
**Finalized award amounts** will be announced once the **Governor signs the budget** which will be no later than July 1st.

## Legislative Updates



## How Does It Work?

- Enables students to attend a non-virtual public school that is different than their assigned school.
- Money for the transportation stipend is distributed to eligible families once a year.





## Are We Eligible?

- A transportation stipend is available to households, regardless of income, with student(s) in K-8 who are Florida residents.
- Unique to this program, stipends are issued per household, not by student.









Easy to Apply: Families can easily apply for the stipend through Step Up For Students.



Financial Assistance: \$750 stipend per household



Access to Education: Enables students to attend a non-virtual public school that is different than their assigned school.

### Transportation Stipend

- K-8 public school students
- For students who attend a public school other than the one they are assigned
- One stipend per household

Apply Now

Learn More



## Sign up now for updates about scholarships from Step Up For Students for the 2025-26 school year!



Timely application updates



Valuable resources

Last Name*		
Email*		
Select the program( New Worlds Scholars		
Number of students	you're interested in applying for*	
Please Select		
Check the grade leve	els your student(s) will be in for the	
2025-26 school yea	r*	
VPK (New Worlds Sc	holarship only)	
□ K-5 □ 6-8		
County*		
Please Select		
Phone Number		
United Sta 🗸	+1	
	e phone number, you consent to receive text	
messages from Step Up https://www.stepupforst	For Students. Terms & conditions at	
muus.//www.stebublofSt	www.usents.org/sms-terms/	



New Worlds Scholarship Accounts Program: This scholarship provides \$1,200 to support your struggling VPK or K-5 non-virtual public school student in becoming a stronger math and/or reading learner. Funds can be used for fees related to tutoring, after-school/summer programs, instructional materials, curriculum and more.

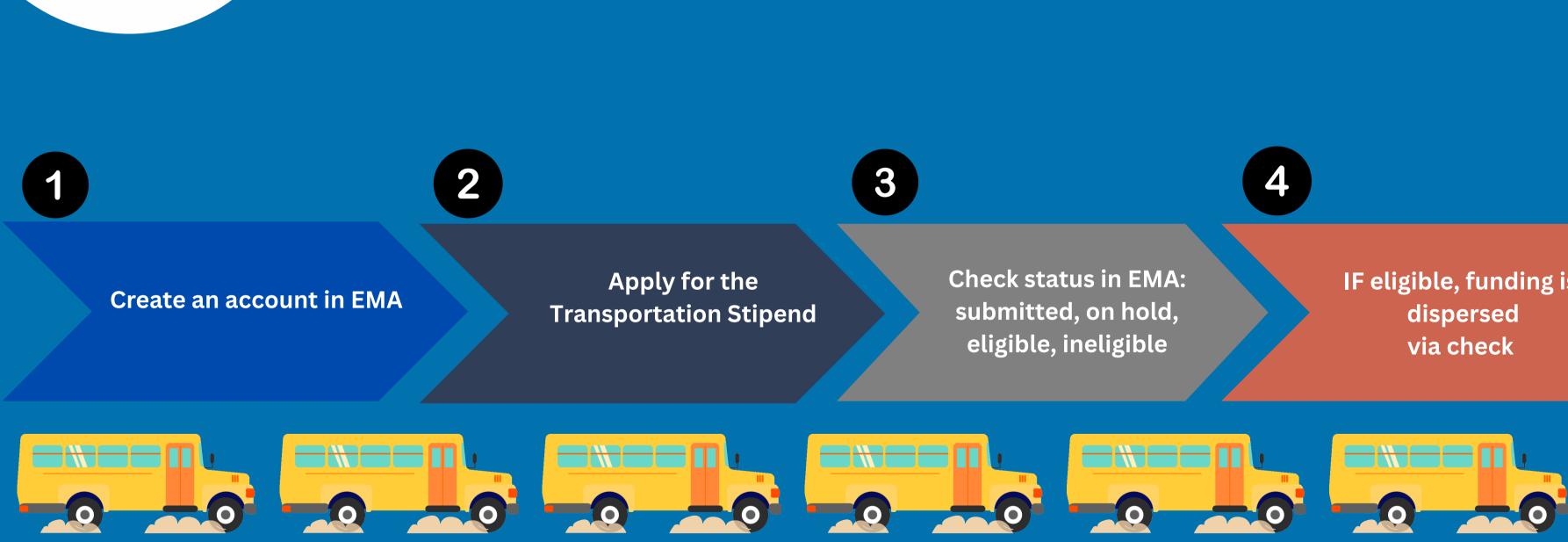
**Transportation Stipend:** Available to families of K-8 students who attend a non-virtual public school other than the one the student has been assigned to. The transportation stipend provides \$750 per household.

Sign up to be among the first to know when the 2025-26 New Worlds Scholarship Accounts Program and Transportation Stipend applications are available!



<u>Scholarship Updates for the 2025-26</u> <u>school year</u>





## Funding



IF eligible, funding is







Q: Do I have to report the Transportation Stipend as income on my taxes? A: No. The state legislature has specified that the Transportation Stipend is not considered income.

Q: My student attends a virtual school, but can we use the Transportation Stipend to cover expenses related to field trips or other assignments that may require travel? A: No. Students attending a virtual school are not eligible for a Transportation Stipend.

Q: I have students attending different public schools, can I get more than one TransportationStipend?A: No, stipends are limited to one \$750 stipend per household.





**Q: How much is the Transportation Stipend worth?** A: The Transportation Stipend is a one-time payment of \$750 per household per school year.

Q: I applied for a Transportation Stipend for my student to attend another public school. Can I also apply for another scholarship? A: Yes, you can apply for a New Worlds Scholarship if your student meets the eligibility requirements.





## Resources



## Did you miss the last Open House?







## Resources



## Transportation Stipend Handbook





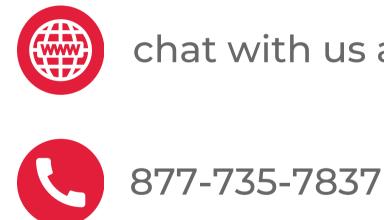
### **TRANSPORTATION STIPEND** PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK



## **Step Up For Students**

## **Contact Us**

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



chat with us at sufs.org



### IMPORTANT

Please share your feedback by filling out the survey after the webinar ends.

# Thank you for attending!

Next webinar: Fall of 2025