

Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA)

# November 21st, 2024

Presented by Step Up For Students







# Agenda



**Communications** 

MyScholarShop: New Vendor Alert

\*\*New Pre-Authorization Process

\*\*New EBF Form

**Purchasing Guide Hot Topics** 

Questions & Answers

**Contact Information** 



#### Communications

<u>Subject:</u> Newly eligible items and services are now available for reimbursement!

Date: 10/31/2024



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to announce that families may now submit reimbursements for items and services that became newly eligible for the 2024-25 school year. These reimbursements may be submitted for purchase or service dates beginning with July 1, 2024.

We appreciate your patience as we worked to update our processes and systems to align with this year's Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA) <a href="Purchasing Guide">Purchasing Guide</a>.

To view a list of changes from this year's FES-UA Purchasing Guide, including which category each newly eligible item or service belongs to within our systems, please <a href="click here">click here</a>.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

- If your student was funded through the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities program in the <u>2022-23 school year and</u> <u>before</u>, you must continue to use <u>our Legacy System</u> to submit reimbursements
- . Reimbursements for all other students should be submitted in EMA.

#### Questions?

Chat with a live agent at <u>www.sufs.org</u>.

Please click here to view our contact information.

Thank you,

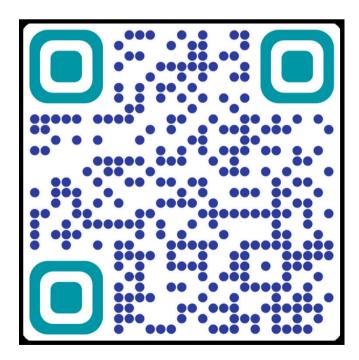
Step Up For Students



#### Communications

<u>Subject:</u> Important updates for families impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton

**Date:** 10/29/2024



**Hurricane Updates** 



Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this message because you are in a county identified in consultation with the Florida Department of Education to have been impacted by Hurricane Helene and/or Milton.

We hope this message finds you safe amidst the challenges brought by these storms. Our hearts go out to our impacted families, schools, and providers.

We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding while we worked through the details of how to best support you during this difficult time.

In our commitment to ensuring those impacted can continue to access educational opportunities, we have created a dedicated landing page where you can find helpful information to navigate challenges you may be facing, including temporary or permanent change of address, damaged items, the need to change your student's enrollment, and more.

#### Please visit this page **HERE**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help.

Chat with a live agent at <a href="https://www.sufs.org">www.sufs.org</a>.

Please click here to view our contact information.

Thank you,

Step Up For Students



## MyScholarShop New Vendor Alert



Company Name	Description of Services	Website
<b>Scholar Within</b>	Scholar Within's reading program is designed to advance your child's reading and spelling skills. The program is brain-based, research-based, and results-proven. Each day is broken up into 4-6 short step-by-step activities for a total of 45-60 minutes.	https://scholarwithin.com/
KAPLAN	Throughout our history, Kaplan has been a pioneer in expanding educational access and transforming learning through new technologies. With more than one million students, and thousands of clients and university partners, Kaplan has the expertise, passion, and continuous innovation to help you achieve your educational and career goals.	https://www.kaptest.com/
Storytime Box	Get children's books and educational activities for kids ages 0-8+ delivered monthly! Build healthy reading habits with our teacher-curated box.	https://www.thestorytime box.com



## MyScholarShop Resources



Navigating MyScholarShop in EMA



Parents: Finding Services and Providers in the Marketplace





# New & Improved Educational Benefit Form



#### **Educational Benefit Form**

Student Name:
Student ID:
Item for which reimbursement is requested (the item you purchased or plan to purchase):
What is the Educational Benefit of this item?
☐ 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:
Parent Signature:
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.

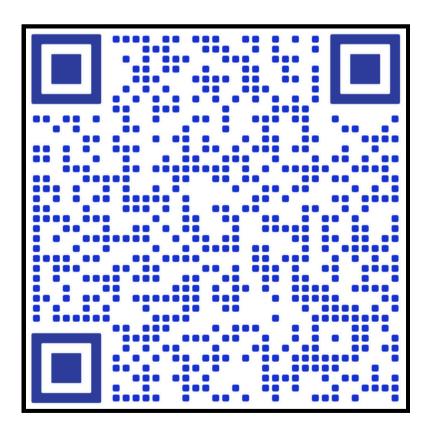
Please see the Parent Handbooks for <u>FES-UA</u> or <u>FES-EO/FTC/PEP</u>.



#### Step Up For Students

#### **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** 



Student Name: **Johnny Doe** 

Student ID: 1234567890

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

#### **Music Lessons**

Benefit

**Educational** 

of

Sample

What is the Educational Benefit of this item?

Music Lessons allow the student to be an all around & Successful individual. It helps develop motor skills such as hand-eye coordination. Playing the bass allows the student to learn discipline, organizational skills, perserance & patience. Thease music lessons also help the student with dyslexia by improving his reading skills as well as improving social skills when he is learning with his class music lessons also help calm his tics/

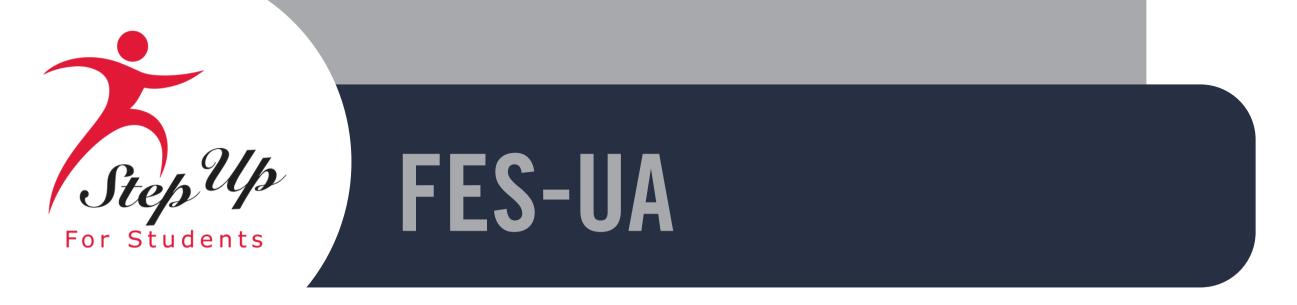
Tourette's Syndrome.

Maffirm 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

Parent Name: Jane Doe

Parent Signature:

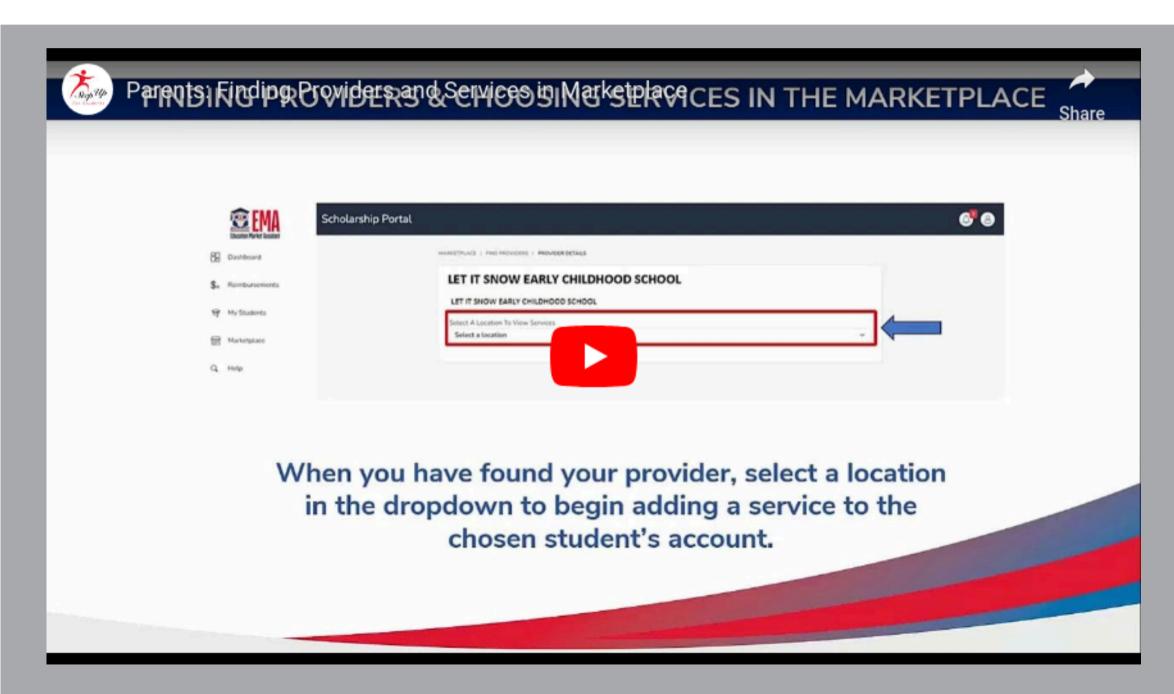
PLEASE NOTE: Any violation of the FES/FTC scholarship statutes, rules, policies, or procedures may result in the loss of the scholarship, ineligibility for future scholarships, or financial or criminal penalties. Please see the Parent Handbooks for FES-UA or FES-EO/FTC/PEP.



#### **How To Find Providers:**

How to use the marketplace to find a direct pay extracurricular activity for my child to participate in?

All of this information can be found in the Parents: Finding Providers and Services in Marketplace
You Tube Video Linked here



Parents: Finding Providers and Services in Marketplace





Purchasing Guide **Hot Topics** 









Game Consoles





**FES-UA Purchasing Guide pg.4** 





#### **Approved Digital Devices**



Laptop Computer



**Cell Phone** 



**Tablet** 



Desktop Computer



**Smart Watch** 



**E-Readers** 



**Important Note:** 

Frequency of

**Purchase: 2 years** 



**Web-centric Laptop** Computers (such as Chromebook or Surface)



FES-UA Purchasing Guide pg. 4





# Digital Devices-Game Consoles

- Frequency of Purchase: 2 years
- When purchasing a game console system, an educational game must also be purchased, or proof of ownership of an educational game or the Educational game you intend to purchase must be provided.
- A valid receipt must include the name of the retailer, date of purchase (including year), item purchased, and purchase price (including subtotal, taxes, shipping, and grand total).
- Provide proof of payment. This can be a copy of the credit card receipt, the front and back of the cleared check, a copy of the entire money order made out to the provider, a copy of the PayPal invoice showing the funding source, a cash app receipt, or a copy of the bank or credit card statement.

\* This purchase can only be made by FES-UA scholarship families!



#### **Examples of Game Console Systems**



**PlayStation** 



Nintendo Wii



Oculus VR



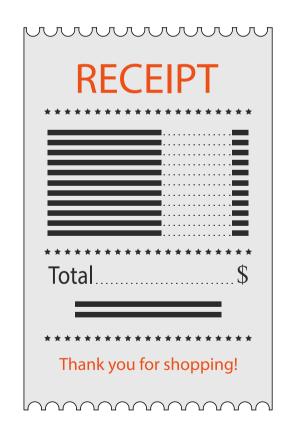
Xbox



Nintendo Switch



# Game Console Receipt Example



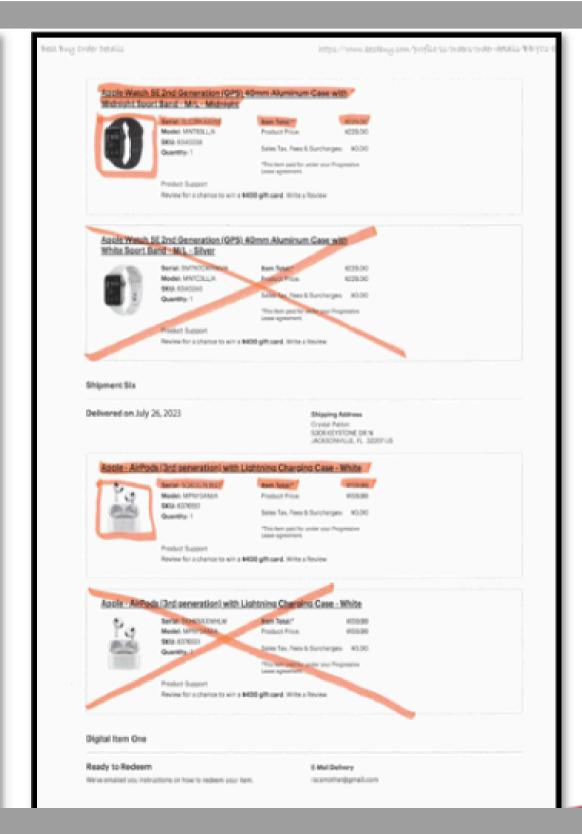
\* This purchase can only be made by FES-UA scholarship families!

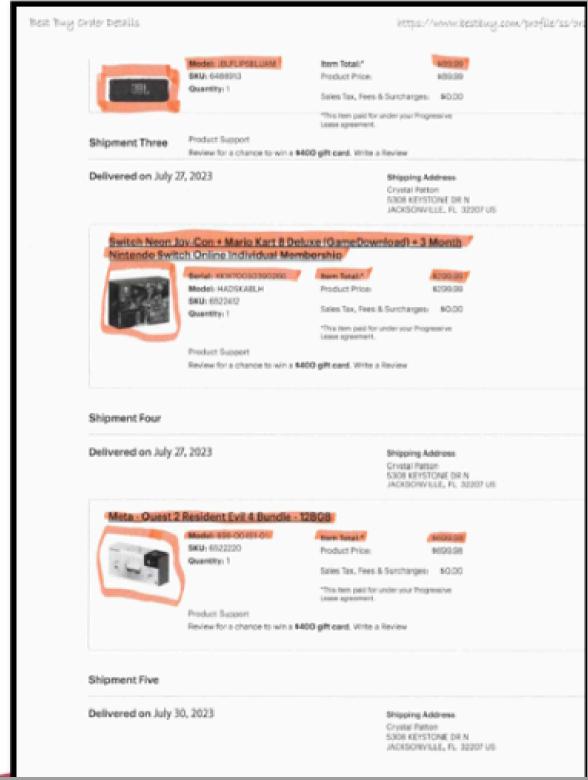




# Game Console Receipt Example Continued

Order Det	tails				O trics because
BEST	Receipt				
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Payment Method				Order Summary	
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				Charges	(max)
				Corder Total	N.957937
				Cross Italy	*1,001.03
				Beturn Credit	40.00
			JACKSOW/LLE, FL. 1		
JBL - FLIPS Po	ortable Waterproof Spe	aker feel			
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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.









Question: Are you allowed to use another address other than your home address such as your work address or a P.O. Box address to prevent theft of delivery's and or damage for MyScholarShop purchases?

Answer: No MyScholarShop orders will ship to the physical address listed in the guardian profile in EMA or the Legacy System

Question: How to use rollover funds for extra tuition payments?

Answer: You may use your rollover funds to pay tuition by submitting a reimbursement with the following documentation

- School invoice
- Proof of payment
- Tuition and fee schedule
- Please see page numbers 28-30 in the FES-UA Handbook for a complete list of the reimbursement requirements

Question: Are Rental fees an approved expense for musical instruments?

Answer: Yes rental fees are an approved expense.





**New Provider Survey** 



We are actively looking for committed tutors, as well as afterschool and summer programs, to help families achieve their academic aspirations. If you are aware of any qualified tutors or programs in the counties mentioned below, we would be immensely grateful for your assistance. Please take a moment to fill out the brief survey linked <a href="here">here</a>. Your input can have a meaningful impact on a child's educational experience. Thank you for your support.

- New Provider Survey
- 1

- Citrus
- Gilcrest
- Glades
- Gulf
- Hardee

- Hamilton
- Hendry
- Jefferson
- Lafayette
- Levy

- Liberty
- Madison
- Monroe
- Taylor
- Union
- Wakulla



#### Scholarship Change Request

How can you change a student's scholarship program or decline their award?

Please contact our Customer Engagement Center at: 877-735-7837

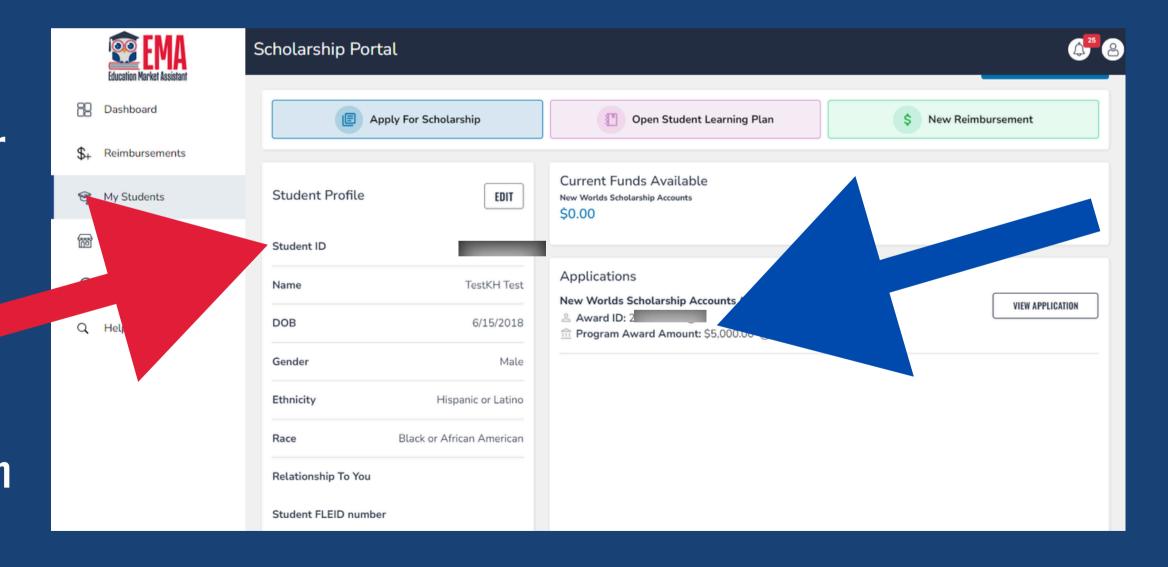
Required Information That you will need to provide on the call

- Guardian's Name
- Guardian's e-mail address
- Student's Name and Student ID
- Reason for Change
- Preferred Scholarship Changes



#### Award ID vs Student ID

**Student ID: Provide this number** when speaking with the Engagement Center to change your student's scholarship program or declining your current scholarship.



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





2024-2025 Purchasing Guide

#### FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH UNIQUE ABILITIES (FES-UA)

Purchasing Guide

2024-2025





2024-2025

Parent/Guardian Handbook



FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH UNIQUE ABILITIES

PARENT/GUARDIAN HANDBOOK

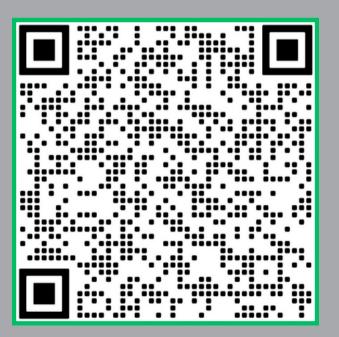


# Previous FES-UA<br/>Open Houses

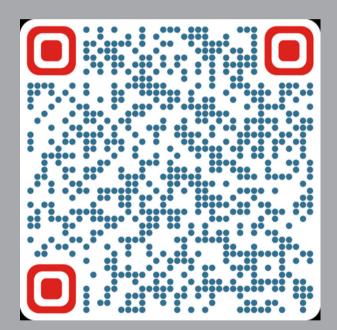




**August Open House** 



<u>September Open House</u>



October Open House



## Up Coming Open Houses

Looking Ahead: Here are the registration links for the upcoming FTC/EO, FES-UA, PEP, NWSA & Transportation Stipend Open Houses





**Transportation Open House** 

**January 15, 2024** 



New World Open House
January 08, 2024



FTC/FES-EO Open House January 09, 2024



FES-UA Open House
January 16, 2024



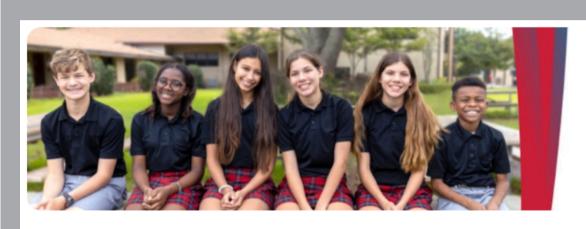
PEP Open House January 23, 2024



Looking for additional help? Scan the QR code or click the link to access our YouTube channel.



STEP UP FOR STUDENTS YOUTUBE CHANNEL



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

#### **Step Up For Students**



@stepup4students · 10.8K subscribers · 73 videos

Step Up For Students empowers parents to pursue and engage in the most appropriate lea...  $\mbox{\bf more}$ 

stepupforstudents.org



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#### **Created playlists**



Step Up Parents Updated 3 days ago View full playlist



Step Up Parent
Updated 3 days ago
View full playlist



Income-based scholarships testimonials View full playlist



The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship View full playlist



The Gardiner Scholarship View full playlist



Thank you from our Step Up families
View full playlist





## Contact Us

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



Chat with us sufs.org



877-735-7837



# Thank you for attending!

To honor your family time during the holiday season, all December Open Houses will be pre-recorded. We hope this allows you to access the information at your convenience.

**Registration Link** 

We will see you in January 2025!

