



Florida Tax Credit Scholarship  
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options  
(FTC/FES-EO)

# September 12, 2024

## Presented by Step Up For Students





FTC/FES-EO



# Agenda



Welcome

Communications

MyScholarShop: New Vendor Alert

Handbook Highlights

Purchasing Guide Hot Topics

Questions & Answers

Contact Information



# FTC/FES-EO

# Communications

**Subject: A message from Step Up's  
CEO**

**Date: September 6, 2024**



Dear Step Up Families,

I hope your new school year is off to a great start.

It's been four-and-a-half months since I assumed the role of CEO at Step Up For Students.

I have spent my career tackling complex banking and payment challenges. In this role, I've been focused on listening, learning, and delivering improvements for families and educators.

I wanted to share an update on what I've learned so far, our progress addressing your feedback, and two of our key priorities: delivering timely payments to schools and improving our processing of reimbursement requests.

#### **School payments**

This year, we are currently serving more than 436,800 scholarship students. Of those, more than 340,000 are enrolled in eligible private schools.

Our team has been delivering faster payments to schools. As of today, a total of 281,000 tuition invoices have been approved by both the school and the parent or guardian. Of those, Step Up has paid 278,000, or nearly 99%, in 6.5 calendar days on average. Our team continues to process invoices as they are approved.

This is much better than last year. We believe this will help schools and families confidently plan their budgets for the rest of this school year.




# FTC/FES-EO

# Communications

**Subject: AVOID FUNDING DELAYS:  
Review your student's enrollment  
by Sept 15**

**Date: September 9, 2024**



**Scholarships for Florida Schoolchildren** 

**Action needed by September 15 to avoid funding delays!**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You recently received a request to approve a School Enrollment Form for your student for the 2024-25 school year. A School Enrollment Form links your student to the selected private school for billing purposes.

As of 6 a.m. ET on September 9, 2024, action was needed for your student's scholarship!

**ACTION NEEDED: Your student's enrollment must be completed in EMA by 8 p.m. ET on Sunday, September 15, 2024, to be reviewed in time for the next round of funding.**

**Avoid funding delays by completing the steps below quickly!**

[Step 1: Login to your EMA account](#)



**FTC/FES-EO**



# Communications

**Subject: Your student's 24-25 FTC scholarship payment**

**Date: September 10, 2024**

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program &  
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Funds have recently been added to your student's Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) account for the 2024-25 school year.

Please do not be alarmed if your student's available balance displays as \$0.00. This is because your quarterly funds are reserved for your student's tuition and fees per your acceptance of your student's private school enrollment in EMA.

**Next Step (new for the 2024-25 school year):**

Your student's school will initiate your student's quarterly payment by approving an



**FTC/FES-EO**

# Declining Scholarship Form



**Decline Form (English)**



**Decline Form (Spanish)**



**Step Up for Students Website**



# FTC/FES-EO



## FTC/FES-EO Award Amounts



### FLORIDA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS PERSONALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM

#### Basic Scholarship Amounts for 2024-25

Note: The county is the one the student lives in according to their 2024-25 scholarship application.

District	Grades K-3	Grades 4-8	Grades 9-12	District	Grades K-3	Grades 4-8	Grades 9-12
Alachua	\$8,147.00	\$7,518.00	\$7,401.00	Lake	\$8,109.00	\$7,480.00	\$7,363.00
Baker	\$8,722.00	\$8,076.00	\$7,955.00	Lee	\$8,596.00	\$7,962.00	\$7,844.00
Bay	\$8,255.00	\$7,626.00	\$7,509.00	Leon	\$8,201.00	\$7,572.00	\$7,455.00
Bradford	\$8,815.00	\$8,169.00	\$8,048.00	Levy	\$8,848.00	\$8,202.00	\$8,081.00
Brevard	\$8,202.00	\$7,573.00	\$7,456.00	Liberty	\$9,200.00	\$8,554.00	\$8,433.00
Broward	\$8,310.00	\$7,665.00	\$7,545.00	Madison	\$8,684.00	\$8,038.00	\$7,917.00
Calhoun	\$9,062.00	\$8,416.00	\$8,295.00	Manatee	\$8,276.00	\$7,647.00	\$7,530.00
Charlotte	\$8,693.00	\$8,064.00	\$7,947.00	Marion	\$8,131.00	\$7,502.00	\$7,385.00
Citrus	\$8,127.00	\$7,498.00	\$7,381.00	Martin	\$8,769.00	\$8,135.00	\$8,017.00
Clay	\$8,159.00	\$7,530.00	\$7,413.00	Monroe	\$11,983.00	\$11,330.00	\$11,209.00
Collier	\$9,908.00	\$9,249.00	\$9,126.00	Nassau	\$8,553.00	\$7,924.00	\$7,807.00
Columbia	\$8,378.00	\$7,732.00	\$7,611.00	Okaloosa	\$8,294.00	\$7,665.00	\$7,548.00
Dade	\$8,467.00	\$7,824.00	\$7,705.00	Okeechobee	\$8,511.00	\$7,865.00	\$7,744.00
De Soto	\$8,692.00	\$8,046.00	\$7,925.00	Orange	\$8,264.00	\$7,629.00	\$7,511.00
Dixie	\$8,799.00	\$8,153.00	\$8,032.00	Osceola	\$8,164.00	\$7,535.00	\$7,418.00
Duval	\$8,246.00	\$7,612.00	\$7,493.00	Palm Beach	\$8,698.00	\$8,044.00	\$7,922.00
Escambia	\$8,230.00	\$7,601.00	\$7,484.00	Pasco	\$8,157.00	\$7,528.00	\$7,411.00
Flagler	\$8,067.00	\$7,438.00	\$7,321.00	Pinellas	\$8,440.00	\$7,809.00	\$7,691.00
Franklin	\$9,733.00	\$9,087.00	\$8,966.00	Polk	\$8,164.00	\$7,535.00	\$7,418.00
Gadsden	\$8,640.00	\$7,994.00	\$7,873.00	Putnam	\$8,614.00	\$7,968.00	\$7,847.00
Gilchrist	\$9,034.00	\$8,388.00	\$8,267.00	St. Johns	\$8,244.00	\$7,615.00	\$7,498.00
Glades	\$9,326.00	\$8,680.00	\$8,559.00	St. Lucie	\$8,278.00	\$7,649.00	\$7,532.00
Gulf	\$9,394.00	\$8,748.00	\$8,627.00	Santa Rosa	\$8,138.00	\$7,509.00	\$7,392.00
Hamilton	\$9,027.00	\$8,381.00	\$8,260.00	Sarasota	\$8,936.00	\$8,297.00	\$8,178.00
Hardee	\$8,433.00	\$7,787.00	\$7,666.00	Seminole	\$8,205.00	\$7,576.00	\$7,459.00
Hendry	\$8,116.00	\$7,470.00	\$7,349.00	Sumter	\$8,761.00	\$8,132.00	\$8,015.00
Hernando	\$8,112.00	\$7,483.00	\$7,366.00	Suwannee	\$8,399.00	\$7,753.00	\$7,632.00
Highlands	\$8,368.00	\$7,722.00	\$7,601.00	Taylor	\$8,667.00	\$8,021.00	\$7,900.00
Hillsborough	\$8,251.00	\$7,615.00	\$7,496.00	Union	\$8,885.00	\$8,239.00	\$8,118.00
Holmes	\$8,999.00	\$8,353.00	\$8,232.00	Volusia	\$8,067.00	\$7,438.00	\$7,321.00
Indian River	\$8,495.00	\$7,866.00	\$7,749.00	Wakulla	\$8,412.00	\$7,766.00	\$7,645.00
Jackson	\$8,745.00	\$8,099.00	\$7,978.00	Walton	\$9,878.00	\$9,249.00	\$9,132.00
Jefferson	\$10,224.00	\$9,578.00	\$9,457.00	Washington	\$9,026.00	\$8,380.00	\$8,259.00
Lafayette	\$9,126.00	\$8,480.00	\$8,359.00				



# FTC/FES-EO

## What is *my* **ScholarSHOP** ?

### Benefits of the ScholarShop

- 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.







# FTC/FES-EO

# MyScholarShop Vendor Alert





 **SHOP NOW**

Company Name	Description of Services	Website
	<p>Our mission is to <b>REVOLUTIONIZE EDUCATION</b> with innovative and science-backed educational resources to address the global literacy crisis.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.thefidgetgame.com">https://www.thefidgetgame.com</a></p>
	<p>The Toniebox uses audio storytelling to introduce pre-readers and developing readers to the wonders of narrative long before children can read the words in a book. When children combine tonies with play, they unlock the real wonder of storytelling - a mix of fascination, surprise, curiosity and a craving for exploration all stirred together. Through this, they discover powers within to create and transport themselves to worlds and wonders all on their own.</p>	<p><a href="https://us.tonies.com">us.tonies.com</a></p>



# FTC/FES-EO

## MyScholarShop Vendor Alert

Company Name	Description of Services	Website
	At Upper Story, making educational toys means bringing important, but abstract concepts into a tangible, playful form. We create groundbreaking, premium toys that both delight and foster endless curiosity. Our two products are Turing Tumble: Build Marble-Powered Computers, and Spintronics: Build Mechanical Circuits.	<a href="https://upperstory.com/en/">https://upperstory.com/en/</a>
	Educational STEM Kits for Kids — Let your kids acquire skills of the future by assembling fun engineering STEM DIY projects. Explore engineering principles with our immersive STEM projects for kids aged 9+ Continuous Fun. Foster Creativity. 80,000+ Boxes Delivered. Perfect for Curious Minds.	<a href="http://circuitmess.com">circuitmess.com</a>



**FTC/FES-EO**

# MyScholarShop Resources



Welcome to  
**my  
ScholarSHOP**

**NAVIGATING MyScholarShop In EMA**

[Navigating MyScholarShop  
in EMA](#)



**PARENTS: FINDING PROVIDERS &  
SERVICES IN THE MARKETPLACE**

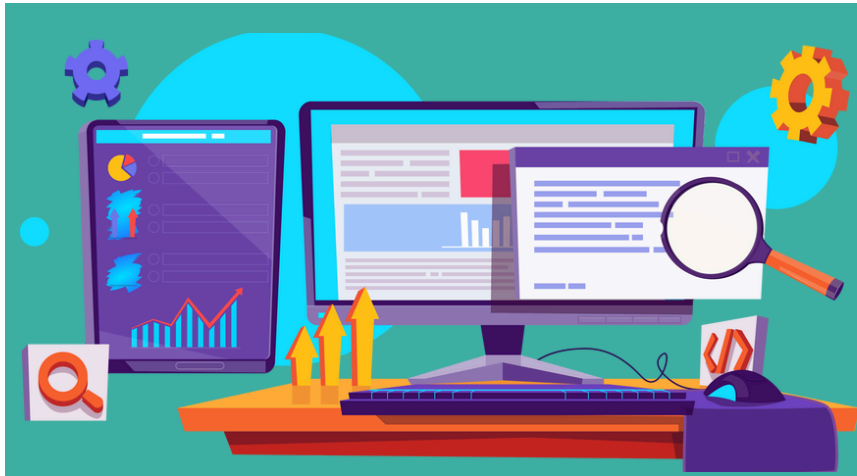
[Parents: Finding Services and  
Providers in the Marketplace](#)



**FTC/FES-EO**



# **Purchasing Guide Hot Topics**



**Educational Software**

**Subscriptions**

**Elective Courses**





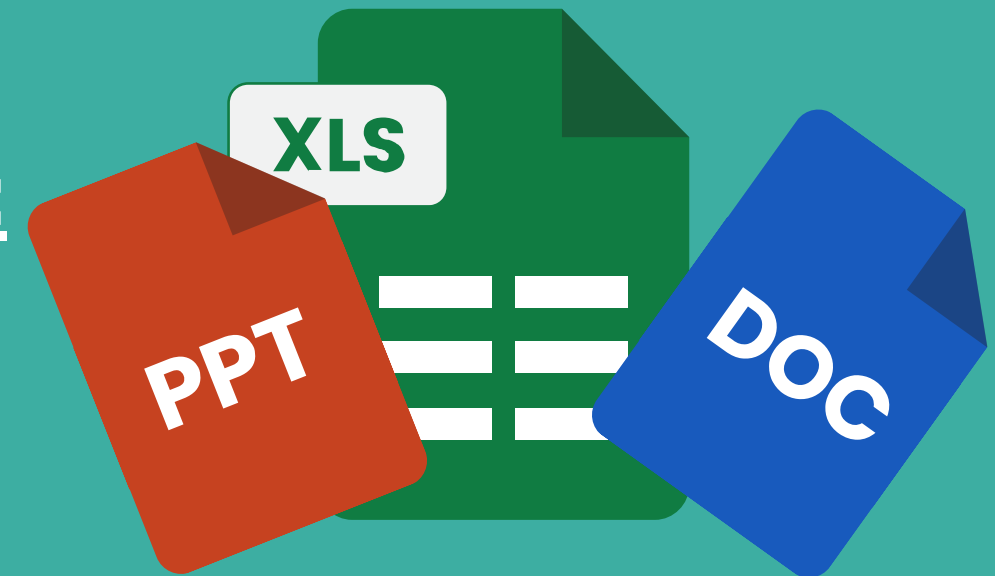
# FTC/FES-EO



## Approved Educational Software & Subscriptions

### Software Subscriptions:

- Word Processing
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe, Video
- Music Editing Software
- LexisNexis
- QuickBooks
- Magazine Subscriptions
- Newspaper subscriptions





# FTC/FES-EO

## Educational Software & Subscriptions

# Eligible Educational Software & Subscriptions Requiring the Educational Benefit Form

- Video/TV/Online Streaming Services
- Musical Streaming Services
- In-Game Purchases or Credits
- Live Television
- Social Media (except LinkedIn Learning for Students)

A screenshot of the Educational Benefit Form. The form is titled "Educational Benefit Form" and includes fields for Student Name, Student ID, Reimbursement type, Item for which reimbursement is requested, Learning subject area(s), Supporting curriculum or course description, How will this item help your student learn?, Cost of purchase, Place of purchase, Date of purchase, Link to the website the item was purchased, Parent Name, and Parent Signature. There is also a checkbox for affirming scholarship program funds and a "PLEASE NOTE" section at the bottom.

## Educational Benefit Form



# FTC/FES-EO

## Educational Software & Subscriptions

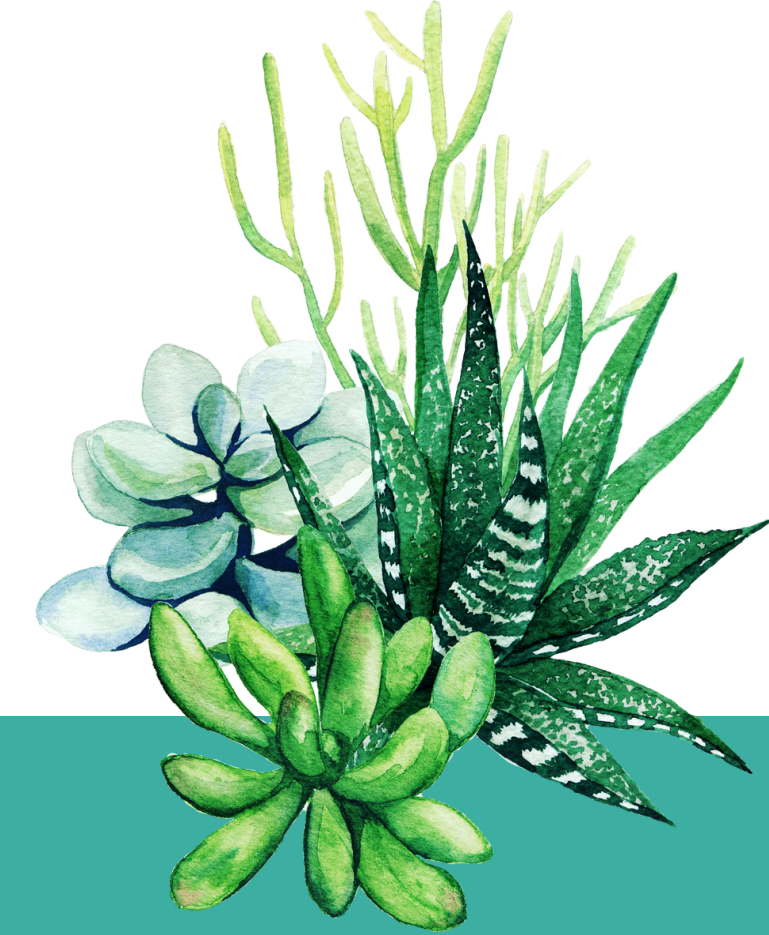


## Items to Note

- Items are eligible for single-use/student pricing only. Reimbursements for multiuser access subscriptions will be prorated to only cover the student's cost.
- Educational Subscription Kits curated and mailed to the home by a kit company are eligible for reimbursement.
- Subscriptions must be age and size-appropriate.



# FTC/FES-EO



## Approved Elective Items

- Music Lessons
- Art Lessons
- Art Supplies (including subscription kits)
- Club Fees (such as Boy/Girl Scouts, and 4H/FFA Clubs)
- Cooking Lessons
- Cooking Supplies (including subscription kits)
- Drama Lessons
- Foreign Language Lessons

- Animal Husbandry Lessons or Training Programs
- Animal Husbandry Supplies
- Woodworking/Building Lessons or Training Programs
- Woodworking/Building Supplies (tools must satisfy manufacturer age recommendations)
- Mechanical Lessons or Training Programs
- Sewing Lessons
- Sewing Supplies

- Gardening or Horticultural Lessons or Training Programs
- Garden Supplies (tools must satisfy manufacturer age recommendations)
- Safety items (including protective gloves and goggles)
- Programming/Digital Production Lessons
- Enrichment Classes/Courses





# FTC/FES-EO



## Ineligible Elective Items

**\*Commercial-Grade Tools/Equipment**

**\*Elective uniforms and/or costumes**



**FTC/FES-EO**



**2024-2025**

**Purchasing Guide**

The cover of the purchasing guide features a photograph of a smiling young man with glasses wearing a green jacket. A circular logo with the Step Up For Students branding is overlaid on the bottom left of the photo. Below the photo, the text reads: "2024-25 PURCHASING GUIDE Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options Personalized Education Program".

**2024-25**  
**PURCHASING GUIDE**  
Florida Tax Credit Scholarship  
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options  
Personalized Education Program



# FTC/FES-EO



## What's New in the 2024-2025 FTC/FES-EO Purchasing Guide?



## NEW 2024-25 FTC/FES-EO/PEP PURCHASING GUIDELINES

As of August 1, 2024, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC), Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) and Personalized Education Program (PEP) Purchasing Guide is updated for the 2024-25 school year. Here's a breakdown of what is new or changed in the guide

### What's new for you?

New items or services for purchase by our scholarship families	New items or services that require Pre-Authorization	New items or services requiring an Educational Benefit Form*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavioral and/or educational applications</li> <li>Dance lessons</li> <li>Dance supplies (including footwear)</li> <li>Digital or video-based sport instruction</li> <li>Nintendo Wii © equipment or similar movement-based platforms</li> <li>Specialized or sport-specific footwear</li> <li>Two or three wheeled bicycles</li> <li>Printer ink</li> <li>Wax filament</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple of a single At-Home Classroom Furnishings item that exceeds \$50</li> <li>Multiple of a single elective item that exceeds \$50</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Video/TV/online streaming services</li> <li>Musical streaming services</li> <li>In-game purchases or credits</li> <li>Live television</li> <li>Family or Multi-User software subscriptions</li> </ul>

\*The **Educational Benefit Form** was created to help guardians demonstrate the educational benefit of an item, product or service that supports their student's learning and education. [Click here to access the form.](#)



## FTC/FES-EO

### Elective Items & Courses

**Eligible providers for enrichment or elective subjects should have one of the following:**

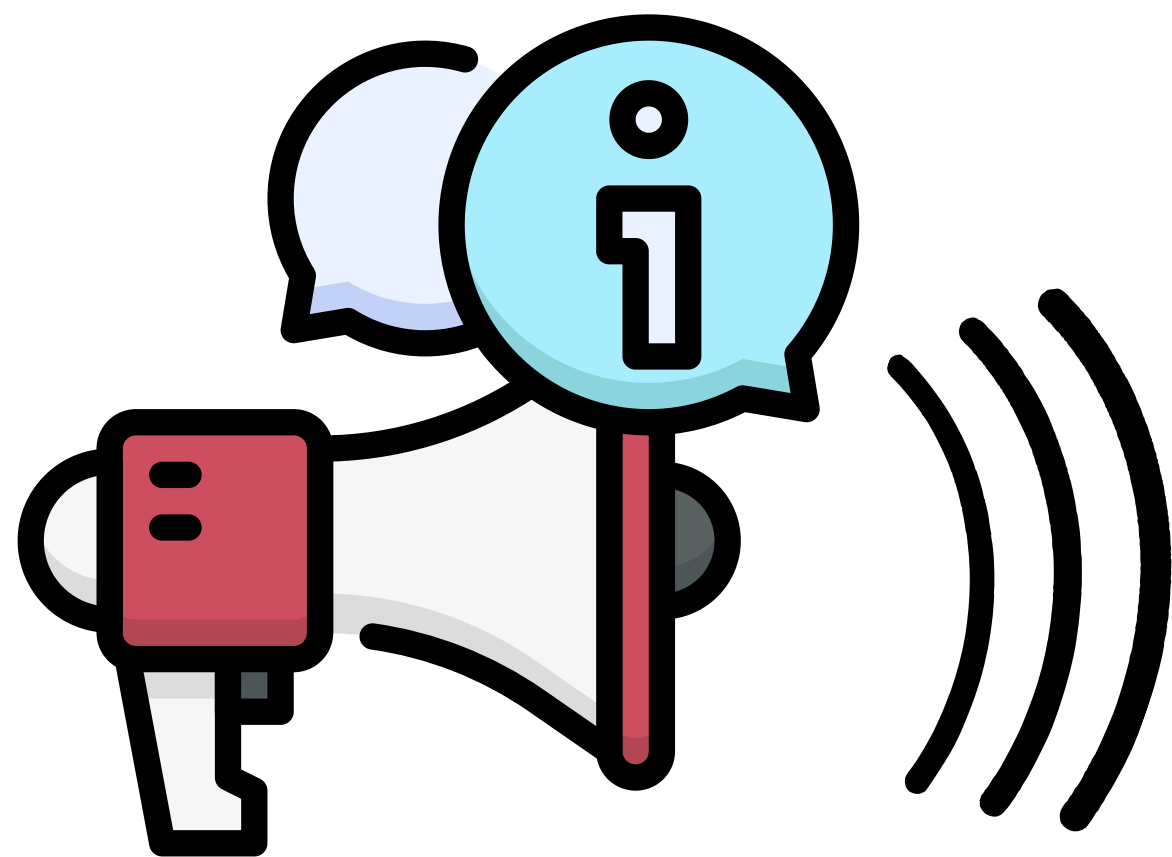


- A valid or expired Florida educator's certificate.
- At least 3 years of experience in the relevant subject area as demonstrated by employment records.
- Currently enrolled in a postsecondary educational institution as a student of the relevant subject area.
- A degree from a postsecondary educational institution in the relevant subject area.
- A certification or national accreditation in the relevant subject area.
- It must be accompanied by an educational benefit form.



**FTC/FES-EO**

# Reimbursement Resources



[What is an ESA?](#)

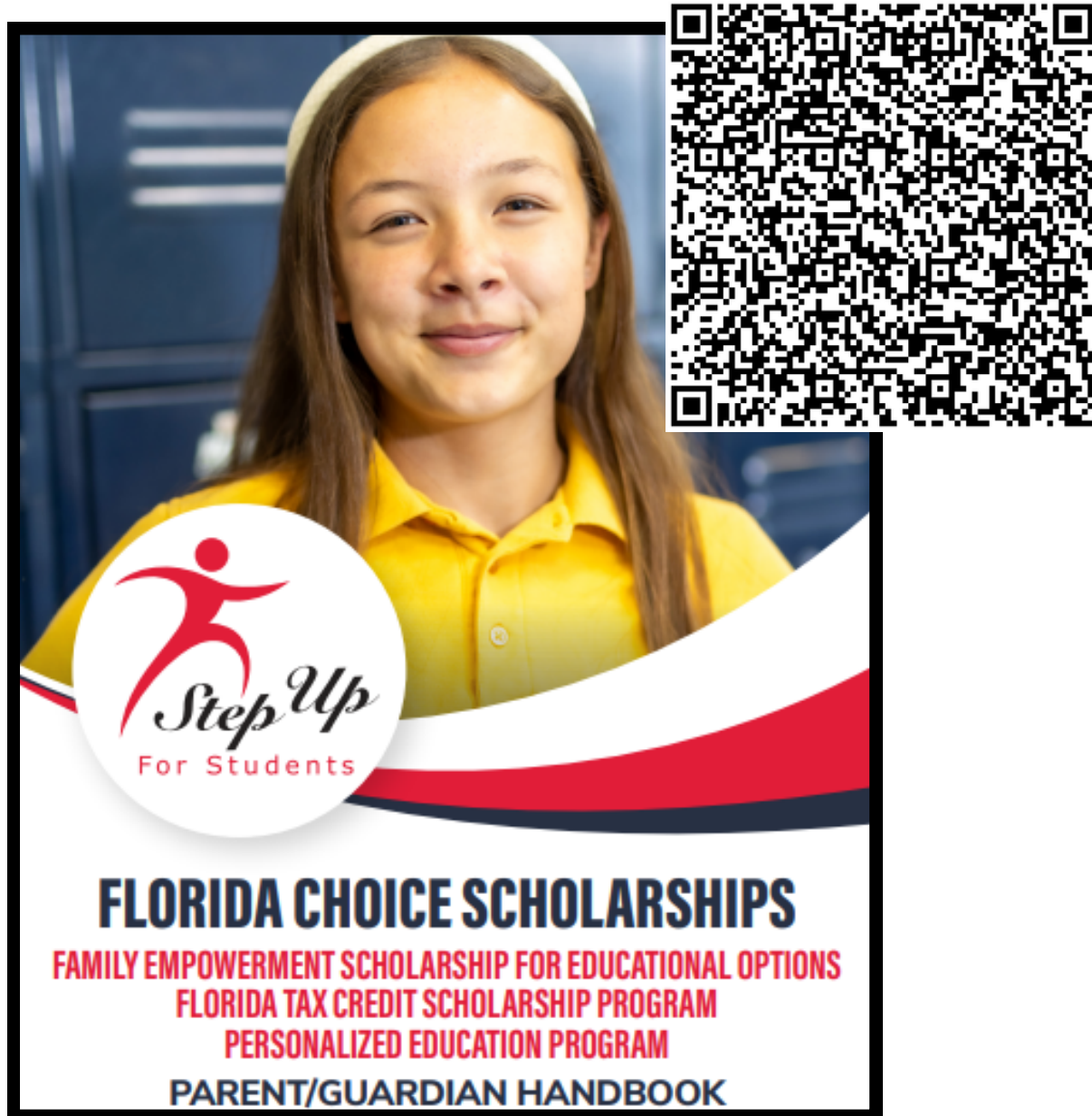


[Families: Submitting Reimbursements in EMA](#)

[Understanding Pre-Authorizations for Scholarship Families](#)



# FTC/FES-EO

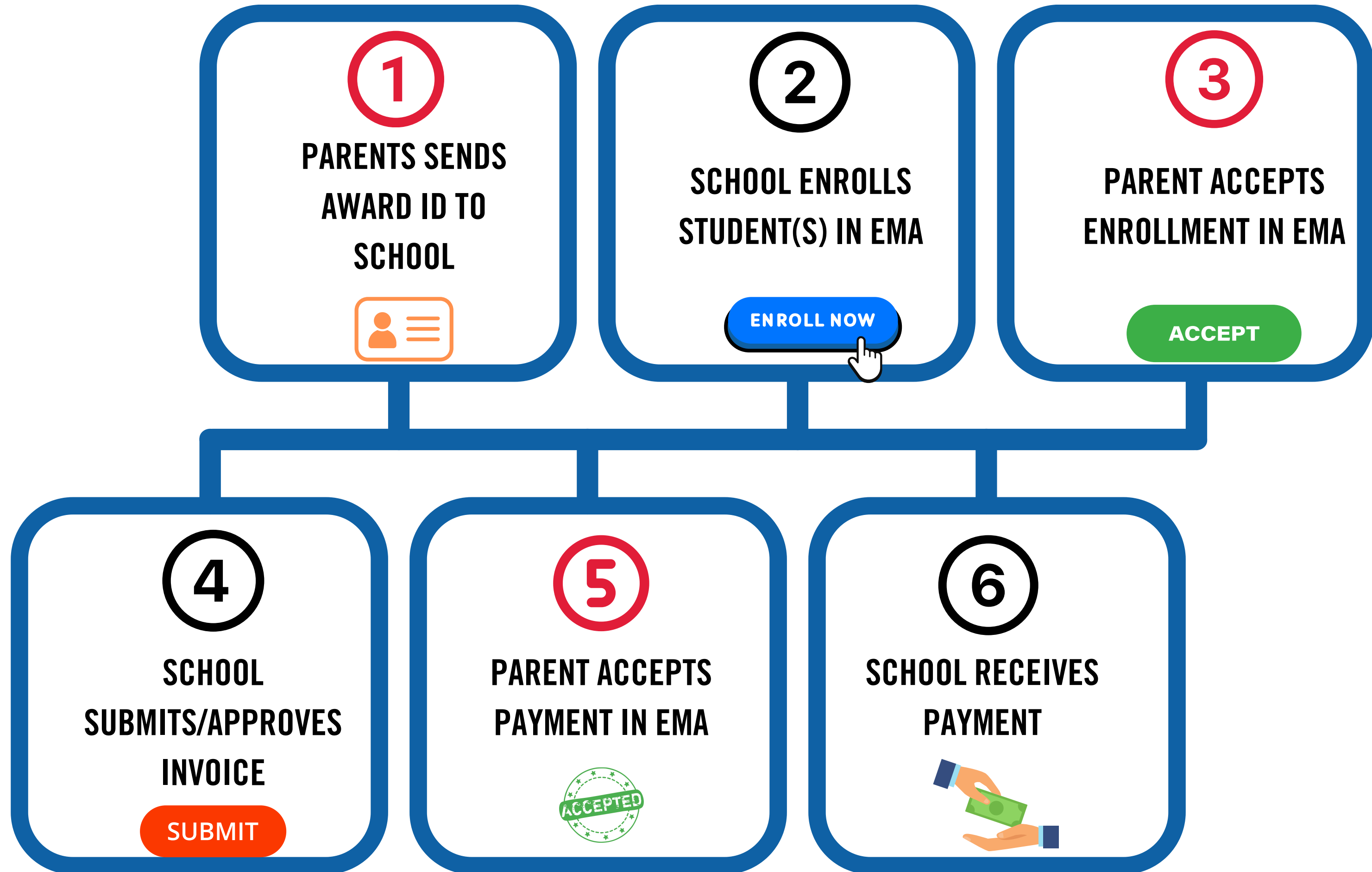


The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) and the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) parent handbook is a useful resource for understanding how to make the most of your scholarship funds.

In the following slides, we will guide you on where to locate answers to some of the most common questions we receive regarding the FTC and FES-EO scholarships.

## FTC/FES-EO Handbook Highlights

# WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO ENROLLMENT WITH STEP UP?





# FTC/FES-EO



**Q: How long must you reside in Florida to qualify for these scholarships?**

**A: The FTC, FES-EO and PEP scholarships are available to students who are Florida residents. There is no timeline for how long a family has to be a resident in the state of Florida. The checklists show the required documentation needed.**



## Renewal Student Application Checklist

### Documents required for all renewal applications (FTC, FES-EO, PEP and FES-UA)

A student is considered a renewal if funded for the 2023-24 school year.

#### Proof of Florida residency (for primary parent/guardian only)

All documents must be current (within 2 months from the submission date, if a recurring bill/statement), valid, and match the primary parent's/guardian's full name and the current physical street address provided on the application.

Proof of Residence can be established with one document from Column A or two different documents from Column B.

Column A (upload one document)	Column B (upload two different documents)
Utility bill (electric, gas, water)	Florida driver's license or state-issued ID*
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	Automobile insurance statement*
Homestead or Property tax statement/assessment	Health insurance statement*
Permanent change of station (PCS) military orders	Homeowners or renters insurance policy*
Homeless Verification or Certificate	Mortgage acceptance letter*
Migrant Address Verification Letter	*A secondary document is necessary.
Property deed	

New for the 2024-25 school year: Proof of residency is no longer required for secondary guardians.

#### 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 FTC.

#### Additional documents required only for renewal FES-UA applications (if applicable)

##### Diagnosis documentation (if applicable)

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 2024-25 school year:

- Students who qualified as "high-risk" and who are turning 6 on or before September 1, 2024
- Students who qualified based on being hospitalized or homebound



## New Student Application Checklist

### Documents required for all new applications (FTC, FES-EO, PEP and FES-UA)

#### Proof of Florida residency (for primary parent/guardian only)

All documents must be current (within 2 months from the submission date, if a recurring bill/statement), valid, and match the primary parent's/guardian's full name and the current physical street address provided on the application.

Proof of Residence can be established with one document from Column A or two different documents from Column B.

Column A (upload one document)	Column B (upload two different documents)
Utility bill (electric, gas, water)	Florida driver's license or state-issued ID*
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	Automobile insurance statement*
Homestead or Property tax statement/assessment	Health insurance statement*
Permanent change of station (PCS) military orders	Homeowners or renters insurance policy*
Homeless Verification or Certificate	Mortgage acceptance letter*
Migrant Address Verification Letter	*A secondary document is necessary.
Property deed	

New for the 2024-25 school year: Proof of residency is no longer required for secondary guardians.

#### Proof of child's age

A birth certificate (or non-expired passport) is required for FES-UA students 3-6 years old and FTC/FES-EO/PEP rising Kindergarten and first-grade students (5-6 years old on or before September 1, 2024) during the school year you are applying for.

#### 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 FTC.

#### Additional documents required only for new FES-UA applications

##### Diagnosis documentation

[Click here](#) to access the list of accepted diagnosis documentation in the FES-UA Parent Handbook, Appendix A.

**Note:** Please remove all password protection from all files. Document size is limited to 5 MB (only 5 documents per upload field). If your diagnosis documentation is too large, upload the pages that include the student's name, diagnosis, physician, psychologist or an autonomous APRN's information.

#### Additional documents required only for new FTC, FES-EO & PEP applications (if applicable)

##### Proof of income (only when applying for Income Priority)

Income documentation must be submitted for all members of the household 18 years and up

- Pay stubs from the 30 consecutive days closest to when you submit your application
- Any other sources of income, such as unemployment, social security and/or child support benefits

**Note:** You must enter your accurate household income with verification documents to be considered for income priority. If you do not input income and/or choose not to upload verification documents, you will enter the non-priority status. Step Up For Students is obligated to award scholarships to students from income-priority households first.





## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** If one of your two children has already received an award, but you haven't submitted an application for the other child yet, can you still apply for the second child at this point?

**A:** Please contact our Engagement Center to add the additional child to the already submitted application. You cannot add a student to or edit an application which has already been submitted.

**Please note, according to statute:**

A parent or guardian may only submit one application per scholarship program. Parents or guardians should make sure all students for whom they wish to apply are added to the My Students section in EMA before submitting their application.



# FTC/FES-EO



**Q: How is the funding divided up each quarter?**

**A: For students enrolled full-time in an eligible private school, Step Up will make 4 quarterly payments for tuition and fees within seven (7) business days after the school and parent have approved the invoice.**

- August 1st
- November 1st
- February 1st
- April 1st

Handbook pgs. 16 & 17

<b>Students Must Be Enrolled in EMA &amp; Approved by Parent</b>	<b>Scholarship Funding Received</b>
<b>10/15/24</b>	<b>100% of scholarship dollars received</b>
<b>10/16/24 - 1/15/25</b>	<b>50% of scholarship dollars received</b>
<b>1/16/25- end of SY</b>	<b>0%</b>



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** How can we determine if there is any remaining balance from the scholarship that can be used for tutoring or supplies?

**A:** Once funds are deposited into the student's account, parents or guardians may use the funds for items and services described in the Purchasing Guide, after tuition and fees have been paid (on page 17). A student's unspent scholarship funds may be rolled over from one school year to the next.

However, under Florida law, Step Up For Students cannot transfer funds into the student's scholarship account that would raise the balance above \$24,000.



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** Is it possible to get reimbursed for enrollment fees and uniforms if the entire scholarship has been allocated to tuition? Since the tuition exceeds the awarded amount, I would like to request reimbursement for enrollment and uniform expenses without affecting the scholarship funds.

**A:** Before making purchases out-of-pocket, submitting reimbursement requests, or ordering through MyScholarShop, parents and guardians should check to ensure: 1. The purchase is an eligible use of scholarship funds. (Note: If a purchase was previously approved due to error, under another program, or under a previous year's rules, that does not mean it will be approved in the future). 2. The student has sufficient funds in their account to cover the purchase. The parent or guardian may view their account balance on the online statement provided in EMA. A family cannot receive reimbursements for amounts that exceed the available balance in the student's account.



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** Is a full scholarship available or can it be transferred to a different school than the one initially applied to? I discovered that the school I enrolled my son in costs 30K, so 8K wouldn't cover it.

**A:** Students utilizing the private school scholarship option may transfer their scholarship among eligible participating private schools. If a parent or guardian is not satisfied with the private school they have chosen, they may find another one.

Before a parent or guardian withdraws their student from the private school, they should notify the school and understand the school's transfer policy.

A student may not be enrolled in a new eligible private school in EMA until the student has been withdrawn from the prior school in EMA.

The transfer process may include a final payment to the private school the student is leaving. If a payment is owed to that school, it must be approved by the parent or guardian. If the school has been overpaid, Step Up will invoice the school for the overpayment.

If a student's scholarship requires full-time enrollment in an eligible private school, funding has been distributed to their account, and the student withdraws and does not re-enroll in an eligible private school within 30 days, the student's scholarship account must be closed and any remaining funds for that quarterly payment period must revert to the state.



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q: Can my child go to school part-time and take online classes at home for the rest of the time?**

**A: FTC/FES-EO scholarship recipients must be enrolled full-time at an eligible private school as an in-person learner.**



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** If my child was approved for 1 type of scholarship but situations have changed and would like to move her to the PEP how do we get that done?

**A:** If you are no longer interested in the scholarship your student was awarded for the 2024-25 school year, please complete the following form for the student that you would like to decline the scholarship for. Please allow up to two weeks for your submission to be processed.

**Note:** If you have more than one student for whom you would like to decline their scholarship, please complete a form for each student. Once you have declined the scholarship, and it has been processed, you may apply for a different scholarship.

[Scholarship Decline Form](#) 



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q: What strategies can guardians use to effectively identify vendors and services eligible for funding through scholarships for children with special abilities, second language learners, those enrolled in EPIC programs, and for uniform purchases as detailed in the purchasing guide?**

- It's important to note that not all providers are available to every scholarship program. When selecting a student in the Marketplace, you will see the services and providers that are available for their specific scholarship.

[Parents: Finding Providers and Services in the Marketplace](#)

Refer to the Parent Handbook, page 19.

SCAN ME







## FTC/FES-EO



**Q: When and how do we renew a scholarship for the upcoming school year?**

**A: Once a student's scholarship has been funded, a parent or guardian may submit a renewal application each year to continue with the scholarship as long as they meet residency requirements and remain eligible to enroll in a Florida public school. The student will remain eligible until they return to public school, graduate high school, or turn 21.**

**A student will need to apply for the scholarship as a new student if they:**

- Do not renew their scholarship and “sit out” a year.
- Leave the program and later seek to resume participation.

**If a student turns 21, graduates high school, or enrolls full-time in public school, but still has funds remaining in their scholarship account, the parent or guardian must complete an application, note their intent to continue with the program, and provide the required documentation to use the remaining funds.**



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q: Will I still have access to funds if I granted the Private School permission to oversee my student's scholarship?**

**A: No. The information available behind the parent or guardian login in EMA is personal and confidential. A parent or guardian may not assign the responsibility for submitting any application or reimbursement documentation to another user and must not provide anyone, including service providers or personnel at a private school, access to a student's scholarship account by providing a username and password.**

**Doing so may result in loss of scholarship eligibility and funding, and/or financial or criminal penalties. Step Up For Students will not be responsible for changes or purchases made by anyone other than the account owner if the login information has been shared. This policy is intended to prevent misuse of scholarship funds and protect the confidentiality of sensitive financial and educational information that belongs to students and their parents or guardians.**



## FTC/FES-EO



**Q:** What are the requirements outlined in the parent handbook for maintaining a good standing with the scholarship, such as school attendance and other criteria?

**A:** Scholarship Loss Actions

- Ineligibility for program renewal or revocation by the Commissioner of Education
- Misrepresentation or withholding information on applications or documentation
- Failure to meet “compulsory” attendance requirements or approve quarterly payments
- Not taking required tests or assessments
- Moving out of Florida or enrolled in public schools
- Engaging in fraudulent activities or reaching graduation/age 21
- Allowing unauthorized access to the scholarship account



# FTC/FES-EO



**We would appreciate your input on the parent handbook.  
Please click [here](#) 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 address associated with your EMA account.

Student ID \*

If you have multiple students on an FTC/FES-EO/PEP Scholarship, only one Student ID is needed.

Did your family utilize the FTC/FES-EO/PEP Scholarship for the previous school year? \*  
(2023-24 school year or earlier)

How helpful did you find the FTC/FES-EO/PEP Parent/Guardian Handbook? \*

1= Not helpful at all  
5= Very helpful

How easy was it to find the information you were looking for? \*

1 = Not easy at all  
5 = Very easy



**FTC/FES-EO**

# Previous FTC/EO Open Houses



May Open House



June Open House



August Open House



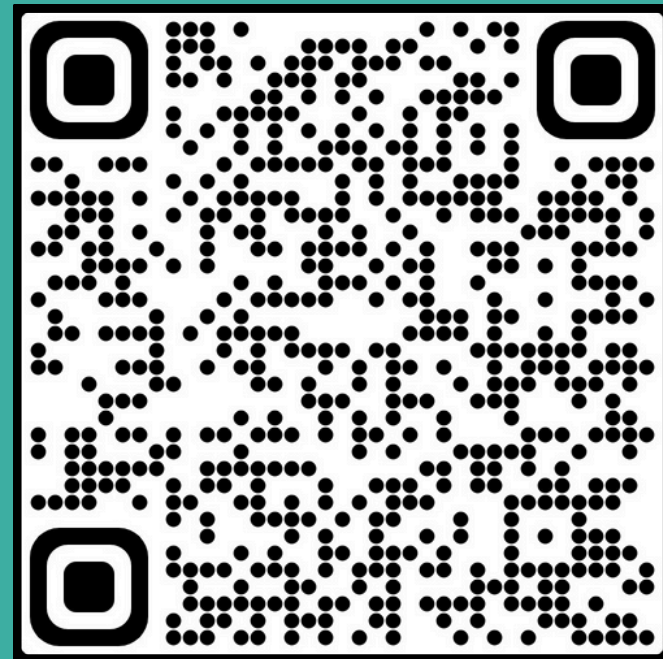
**FTC/FES-EO**

**JOIN US**

## Monthly Parent/Guardian Open Houses



**NWSA Open House**  
(2nd Wednesdays,  
Bi-monthly,  
12 PM & 6 PM)



**FTC/EO Open House**  
(2nd Thursdays,  
Monthly,  
12 PM & 6 PM)



**FES-UA Open House**  
(3rd Thursdays,  
Monthly,  
12 PM & 6 PM)



**PEP Open House**  
(4th Thursdays,  
Monthly,  
12 PM & 6 PM)



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



## Step Up For Students

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[stepupforstudents.org](http://stepupforstudents.org)



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



**FTC/FES-EO**



# Contact Us

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



chat with us at [sufs.org](https://sufs.org)



877-735-7837



[stepupforstudents.org/contact/](https://stepupforstudents.org/contact/)





**FTC/FES-EO**

**Thank you for attending!**

**Upcoming webinar: October 10th, 2024**

**Registration Link**