




# Office Hours Special Edition May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Paula Nelson, Ed.S., Vice President, CR  
Ronda Dry, Ed.D., Senior Director, CR

# AGENDA

- Scholarship Information
- Funding Updates & Timeline for Future Quarter Payments
- Communications
- Links & Resources
- Closing

The background of the slide is white and decorated with several red apples and yellow pencils. The apples have green leaves and brown stems. The pencils are yellow with pink erasers and grey bands. The text is centered in a black, cursive font.

*thank you to  
all of our  
dedicated teachers*

# STEP UP FOR STUDENTS

## Appoints Gretchen Schoenhaar

### As New CEO

“I’m thrilled by this opportunity with Step Up For Students,” Schoenhaar said. “My parents were deeply supportive and involved in their children’s education, and I have always supported families having more options to choose from. Investing in our children is critical to their future success.”





For Students

# Scholarship Updates

# 2024-2025 Scholarship Updates

## **FES-EO and FTC**

**Students on Applications: 188,777**

**Total Students Awarded: 155,325**

## **PEP**

**2023-24 20K Students**

**2024-25 60K Students**

**Applications: 31,168 Awarded: 21,988**

## **FES-UA**

**Students on Applications: 69,442**

**Total Students Awarded: 62,544**



# Wrapping Up 23-24 SY Payments

- We are still making payments from Q4 invoicing, as well as any outstanding invoices from prior quarters.
- There will be some additional funding and invoices over the next several weeks for students with issues that are outstanding.
- We are still resolving some technical issues regarding Receivables noted in EMA. We are in the process of validating those receivables. Once validated, SUFS will send you an invoice for that overpayment prior to Q1 and hopefully before June 30th. Please return those funds as soon as possible. Funds not sent back will be collected from Q1 2024-25 payments.
- SUFS has currently paid 99.4% of all invoices approved by schools this year.

# True Receivables

**True receivables (paid to the school but owed back to the student account) can be mailed back to:**

Step Up For Students  
Attn: Accounts Receivable  
4655 Salisbury Rd Ste 400  
Jacksonville, FL 32256

\*Include the student name(s), student ID #(s), and the amount per student (if multiple)



# Post Quarter 3 Funding Survey Update

We are still actively processing the survey submissions. If your Regional Manager has not provided you with an update, please note that our team is working diligently to address all inquiries and will respond with guidance once your specific inquiry has been resolved.

Thank you for your patience. Please feel free to contact your Regional Manager if you have any further questions or concerns.





# 2024-25 Funding Updates

QUARTER	Funds from DOE to SFO (SUFS)
1	August 1, 2024 (Renewal Students)
	Sept 1, 2024 (New Scholarship students)
2	November 1, 2024
3	February 1, 2025
4	April 1, 2025

Beginning with the 2024-25 school year, SFOs will initiate quarterly payments for full-time, in-person students at an eligible private school within 7 business days of the parent and school approval.

The 2024-25 Funding Calendar will arrive later this summer. Watch your office email and attend the June Office Hours!

*To be presented for the August 1 funding file, students must be enrolled (including the parent confirmation) by **June 30th**.*

# 2024 -2025 Award Amounts



EMA is starting to display 2024-25 award amounts in the parent/guardian Scholarship Status view. Once the state budget has been signed by the governor, Step Up will circulate the 2024-25 Scholarship Award Amount charts to schools. We anticipate that this will happen later this summer.

# Scholarship Offerings



Florida Tax Credit Scholarship

Family Empowerment Scholarship  
For Educational Options

Family Empowerment Scholarship  
For Unique Abilities



# of Schools	% of Schools	Participation	# of Students	% of Students
2358	100%	Total # of Schools	311,431	100%
2213	93.80%	Accept All 3 Programs	294,962	94.70%
105	4.40%	Do Not Accept UA	14,795	4.70%
10	0.41%	Do not Accept EO or FTC	877	0.27%

# Hope Enrollment

- The Hope Scholarship Program will be merged with the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) and Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) scholarship programs.
- All eligible financial contributions will be directed to the FTC scholarship program.
- The legislative changes will allow students with bullying incidents documented by their public schools to continue to qualify for FTC scholarships after application close.
- Current Hope Scholarship recipients will apply as FTC or FES-EO Scholarship recipients. All students will be enrolled in EMA!

To review all the latest legislative updates, visit our [Legislative Updates](#) page!



Hope Scholarship:  
Legislative Updates

# School Actions for 2024 – 25 SY

- Schools will take 2024-25 actions in EMA this month, including setting up their tuition & fees and enrolling students.
- You can begin collecting **Award IDs** now, as you will need these again for enrollment.
  - **New Feature Alert:** Parents will also have the option to print their ID in the coming weeks.
- With the new DOE funding timelines, it's important to submit T&F in a timely manner and complete enrollments once approved.

# Tuition & Fees Reminders



Schools, finalize your Tuition and Fees (T&F) amounts NOW, do not wait for scholarship amounts to be released. Once you submit maximum schedules and enroll students, those schedules will be locked. You CAN add additional schedules at a lower amount, but you can't change their maximums.

Once you submit your Tuition and Fees (T&F), it may take up to 10 business days to verify them before you can start enrolling students.

Your school must be 2024-25 compliant with the Department of Education (DOE) before they can start enrolling students.

# Tuition & Fees Reminders

You can help us review your tuition & fees expeditiously by being mindful of the following:

## Ineligible Tuition Rates

- Part-Time Tuition Rates
- Single Day Tuition Rates
- Hybrid Tuition Rates
- Online Tuition Rates
- Umbrella Tuition Rate
- Homeschool Tuition Rate
- Tuition for other locations or other program names

## Ineligible Fees

- Lunch/Food
- Aftercare
- Fundraising/Events
- Annual Funds
- Giving Funds/Building Funds
- Therapies
- "Scholarship Fees"
- Optional Fees

FES-UA students are eligible for preschool enrollment (3-5yo).

SLA to review T&F: allow approx. 10 business days for initial review.

# Age 3 Students : FES-UA Legislative Updates


Pre-K updates coming soon! When completing your tuition and fees, you'll be asked to enter your Pre-K tuition and fees if your private school is reported in its Annual Survey with the Florida Department of Education that your school serves Pre-K students. Keep an eye out for an email with even more updates about Pre-K students benefiting from the FES-UA program.

Once the enrollment process begins, we encourage schools to enroll students in EMA as quickly as possible. Please be sure to enter your maximum tuition and fee rate for PreK as you submit your tuition and fee rates. However, please note that PreK enrollment for FES-UA students will begin later this summer. This will ensure that as many students as possible are able to be fully enrolled in time for the first funding distribution of the fall.

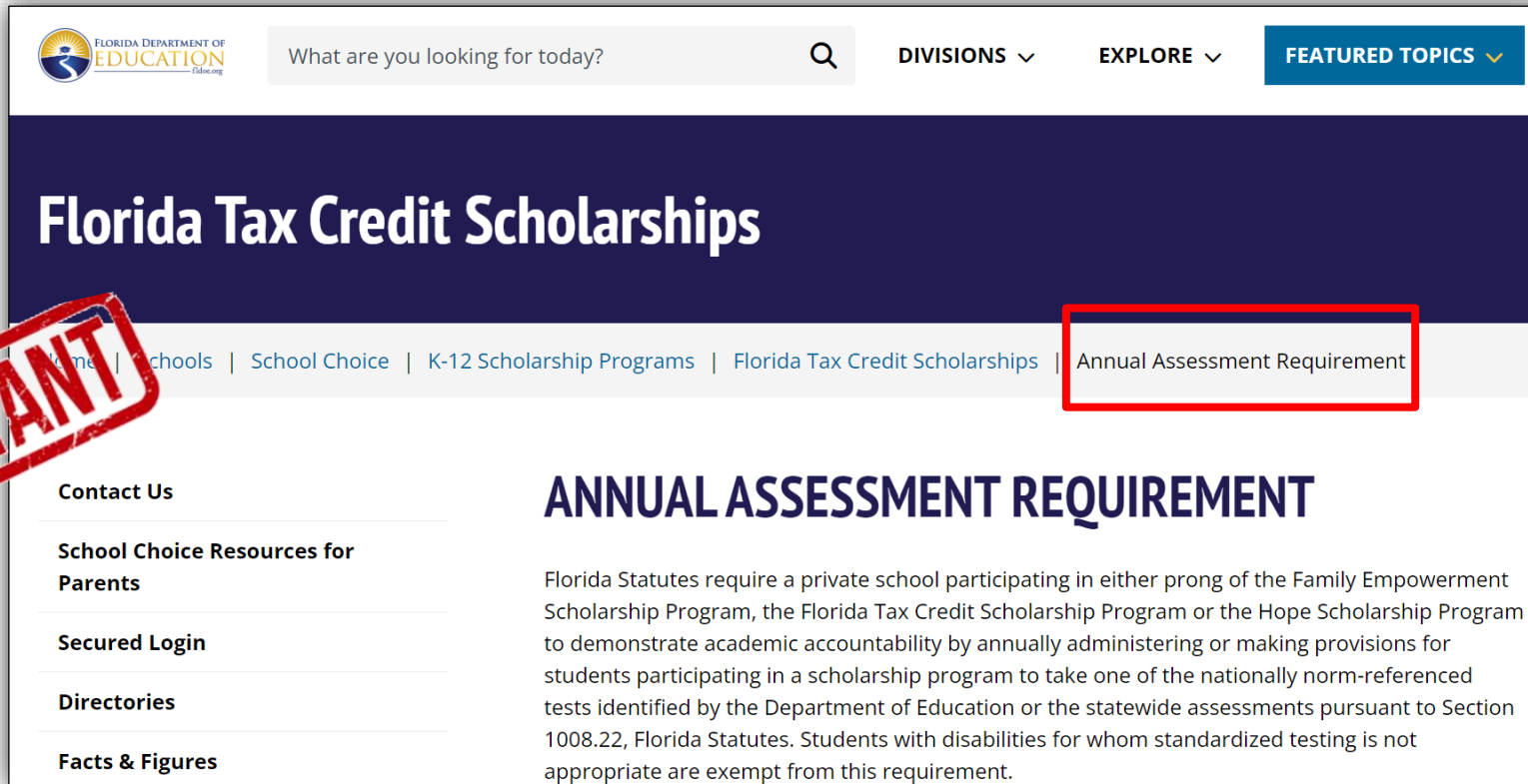




# Personalized Education Program (PEP)

- PEP students can now spend at least two school days per week at a private school's physical location having direct contact with teachers. If PEP students choose to educate using this model, they will need to address remaining instructional time, occurring outside of the private school, in their student learning plan.
  - The FLDOE will be instituting a new compliant process for private schools desiring to serve PEP families in the 24-25 school year. Any schools that are interested in serving the PEP population in this way need to email [schoolchoice@fldoe.org](mailto:schoolchoice@fldoe.org). In the email, please include the school's name, school code (if applicable) and explain that the school wishes to serve PEP students under the new hybrid learning language.
- 

# PEP & Assessments



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
fldoe.org

What are you looking for today?

DIVISIONS  EXPLORE  FEATURED TOPICS

## Florida Tax Credit Scholarships

Home | Schools | School Choice | K-12 Scholarship Programs | Florida Tax Credit Scholarships | **Annual Assessment Requirement**

**VERY IMPORTANT**

Contact Us

School Choice Resources for Parents

Secured Login

Directories

Facts & Figures

### ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT

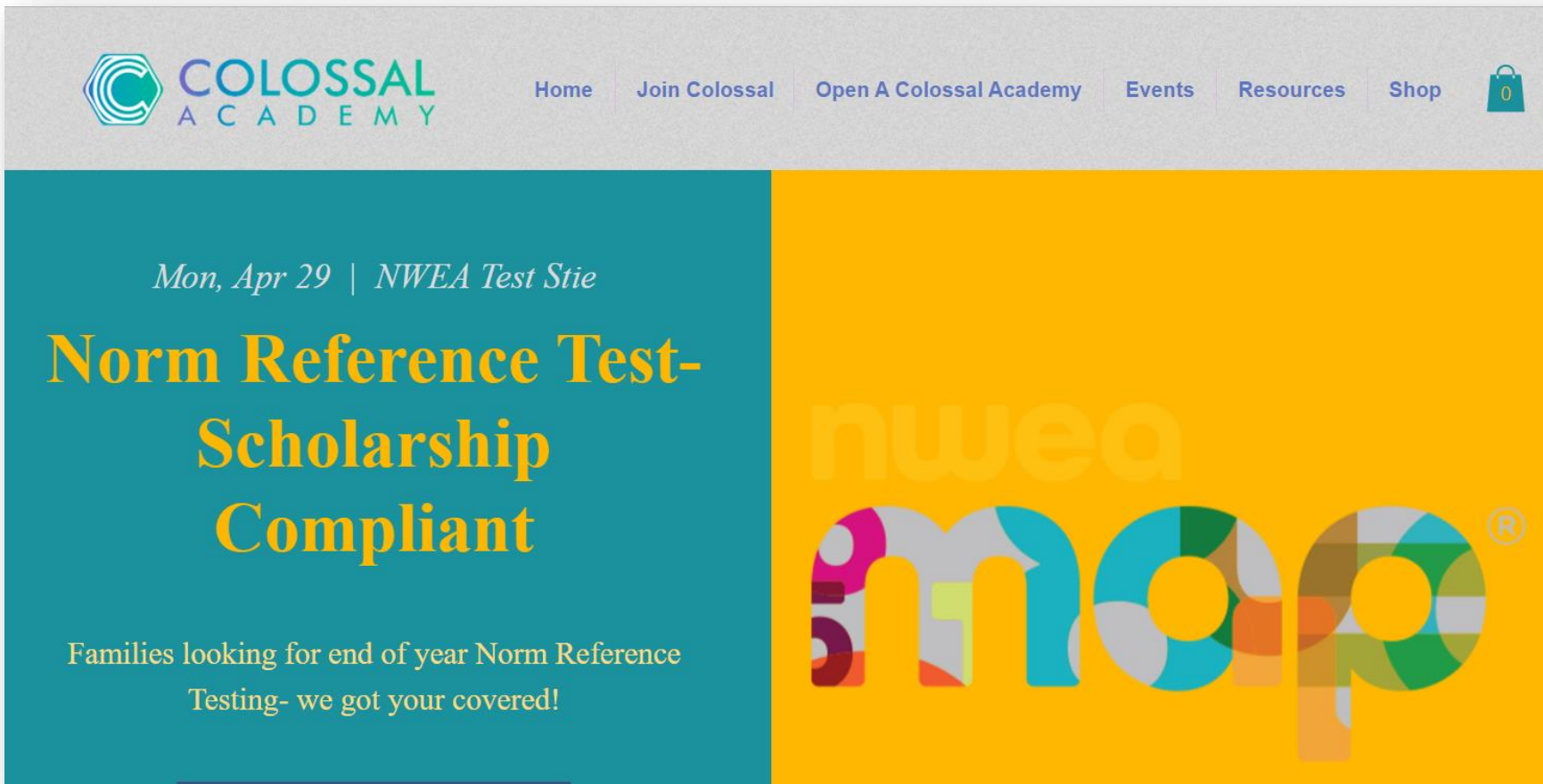
Florida Statutes require a private school participating in either prong of the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program or the Hope Scholarship Program to demonstrate academic accountability by annually administering or making provisions for students participating in a scholarship program to take one of the nationally norm-referenced tests identified by the Department of Education or the statewide assessments pursuant to Section 1008.22, Florida Statutes. Students with disabilities for whom standardized testing is not appropriate are exempt from this requirement.

In compliance with statute, all PEP Renewal families are required to provide a standardized assessment result.

Please refer to <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/ftc/annual-assessment-requirement.shtml> for further details.

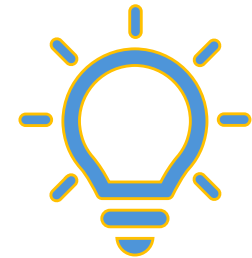
Information on the submission process will be coming in the spring. **Please be aware that scores are required for funding and they must be submitted by July 31st.**

# Personalized Education Program (PEP) Testing



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Colossal Academy website. The logo on the left consists of a stylized 'C' icon followed by the text 'COLOSSAL ACADEMY'. The navigation menu includes links for 'Home', 'Join Colossal', 'Open A Colossal Academy', 'Events', 'Resources', and 'Shop'. A shopping cart icon is visible on the right side of the menu.

The main banner features a teal background on the left and a yellow background on the right. The teal section contains the text: 'Mon, Apr 29 | NWEA Test Site', 'Norm Reference Test-Scholarship Compliant', and 'Families looking for end of year Norm Reference Testing- we got your covered!'. The yellow section features the 'nwea' logo in a light yellow font and the 'map' logo in a large, colorful, multi-colored font.



Have you considered being a site for PEP students to complete their required assessments? Here's what one school is doing.

# Rising Stars Update

A special thank you to the following schools for hosting Rising Stars for the 2024 season:

- ★ Coastline Christian Academy
- ★ Impact Christian Academy
- ★ Christopher Columbus High School
- ★ Saint Jude Cathedral School
- ★ Trinity Catholic School
- ★ Saint Andrew School
- ★ Bishop Verot Catholic High School
- ★ Center Academy (Maitland)
- ★ Saint John Lutheran Church and School
- ★ Monsignor Edward Pace High School
- ★ Abundant Life Christian Academy
- ★ American Youth Academy



**APPRECIATION**  
**TEACHER**  
**WEEK**



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK – May 6-10

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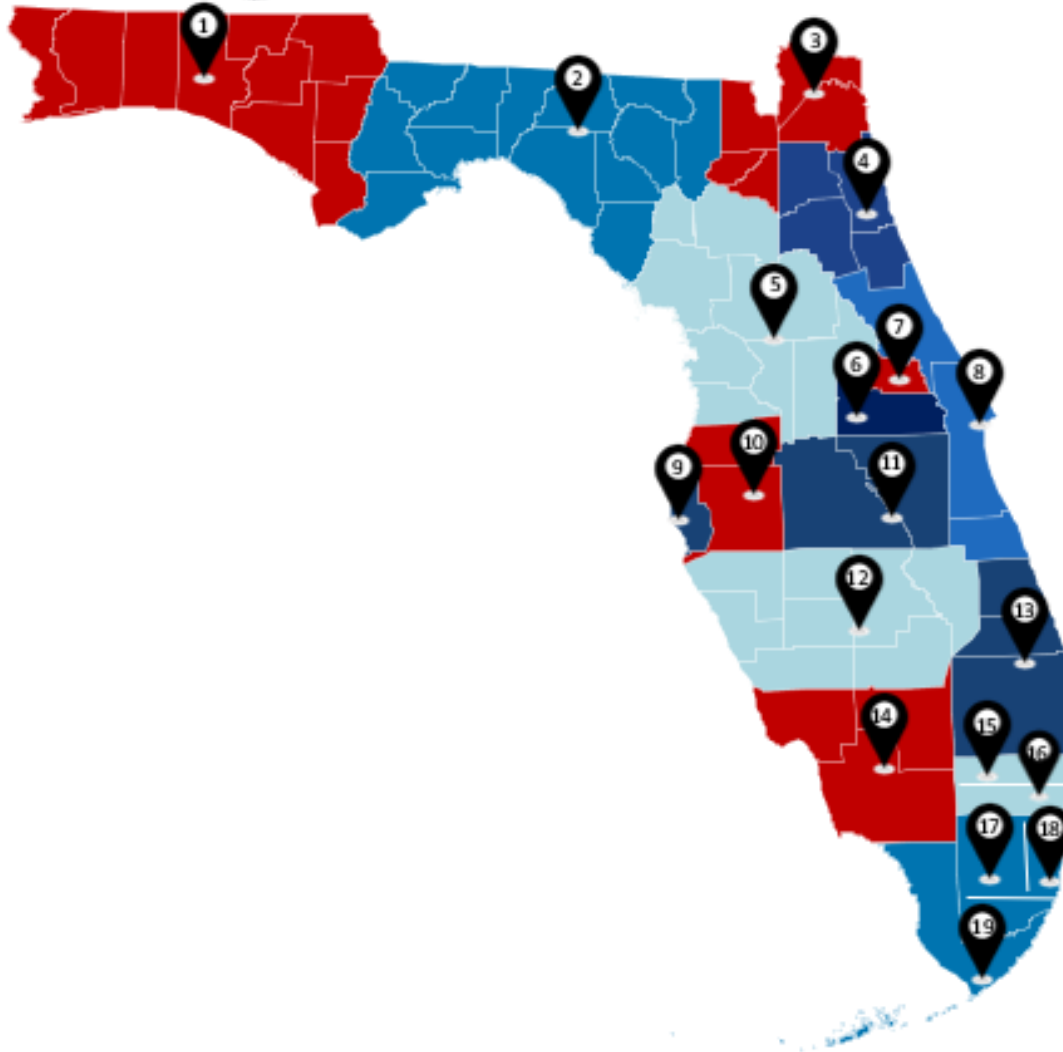




I  
DO NOT  
My Principal



## Community Relations REGIONAL MANAGER MAP



### REGIONAL MANAGERS

Region 1: Pat Fidler

Region 2: Liz Heron

Region 3: Amanda McCook

Region 4: Kate Coughlin

Region 5: Laurie Baluyot

Region 6: Jonathan Cajigas

Region 7: Nathan Nadeau

Region 8: Ric Speigner

Region 9: Stephanie Love

Region 10: Melissa Jaramillo

Region 11: Katie Swingle

Region 12: Kristin O'Brien

Region 13: Carla Justamante

Region 14: Amy Allman

Region 15: Sacha Walker

Region 16: Gaby Citelli

Region 17: Carla Hernandez

Region 18: Dina Damus

Region 19: Criscelli Acosta

# How To Contact Us



There are 3 ways to reach us:

 Chat with a live agent at [www.sufs.org](http://www.sufs.org)

 Email us at [info@sufs.org](mailto:info@sufs.org)

 Call us at (877) 735-7837

Service Center Hours:

Monday – Friday

8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. ET





THE BEST MOM  
**HAPPY  
MOTHER'S  
— DAY —**

**OUR NEXT OFFICE  
HOURS IS SCHEDULED  
FOR**

**JUNE 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**REMINDER:  
OFFICE HOURS WILL BE CONDUCTED  
AT 10 AM & 1 PM**

**To register for future sessions, use  
the QR code here.**

