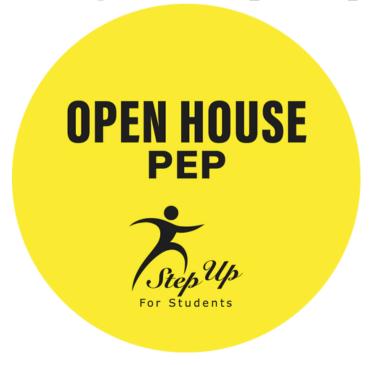


December 26th, 2024

Presented by Step Up For Students





Agenda



Welcome

Communications

MyScholarShop: New Vendor Alert

Navigating MyScholarShop

Pre-Authorization Process

Purchasing Guide Hot Topics

Questions & Answers

Contact Information



Communications

Subject: Action Needed: Submit your student's test results!

Dates: 11/14/2024



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please submit your student's 2023-24 end-of-year norm-referenced annual assessment results.

Students funded on the PEP scholarship in the spring of the 2023-24 school year must submit the student's 2023-24 end-of-year norm-referenced annual assessment results, even if their 2024-25 scholarship is no longer PEP.

Until you submit your student's end-of-year norm-referenced annual assessment results, no additional 2024-25 scholarship funding will be distributed to your student's account. Sunday, December 15, 2024, is the last day to submit to receive additional funding.

NEXT STEPS:

- <u>Click here</u> for step-by-step instructions on how to submit your student's assessment or test results.
 - While submission of test scores is required by law, the <u>results</u> of the test will not impact your student's scholarship eligibility or your ability to access your student's scholarship funds or any provider's services.
- <u>Please note:</u> For previous year PEP students who are exempt from Annual
 Assessment requirements, please complete and submit the <u>Test Exempt Form</u>
 in place of the results.
- Still need to take an assessment? It's not too late. A list of approved tests
 can be found here.
 - MyScholarShop now includes two vendors offering a direct-buying option for approved norm-referenced tests: <u>Homeschool</u> <u>Boss</u> (administering the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress test) and CLT (administering the Classic Learning Test).



Communications

Subject: Your student's 2024-25 PEP scholarship payment

Date: 11/22/2024

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program Personalized Education Program



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Funds have recently been added to your student's Personalized Education Program (PEP) scholarship account. Please note: A student's available balance may take some time to reflect funding.

Your 2024-25 scholarship funds can be used towards personalizing your child's education for items purchased and services rendered between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025.

Here is what you can expect within your EMA account:

Reimbursements: If a student has an available balance and purchases items or services out-of-pocket, the family will be able to submit a reimbursement within their account in EMA. We strongly encourage you to read the Parent/Guardian Handbook below before making any out-of-pocket purchases. You may also review these helpful resources:

- Reimbursement Payment Methods Selection
- Reimbursement Request Instructions
- Reimbursement Payments (How they are made)

IMPROVED Educational Benefit Form is now available! We're pleased to share that updates have been made to our Educational Benefit Form to simplify the process for families. For more information on when to use the Educational Benefit Form, please see the resources below. To access the new form, please click here. If you recently submitted the prior form, please rest assured that it will be processed.

Marketplace: In this section, you will find two different options for ESA spending.



Handbook Updates



November 2024



November 2024 Handbook Updates

Step Up will regularly update the parent and provider handbooks throughout the year. This round of updates adds requested information and clarifies some existing handbook language.

- Added section describing the process of transferring between scholarship funding organizations ("SFOs")
 - Parent handbooks
 - Lists the step-by-step process for what a student needs to do to transfer from another SFO to Step Up
- · Listed tutoring provider requirements
 - Lists step-by-step process to help providers determine if they want to list themselves as full-time and/or part-time tutors
 - Lists criteria to qualify as a full-time or part-time tutoring provider
- Clarified pre-authorization language and what must be included on the Educational Benefit Form ("EBF")
 - o Listed specifically what should be included on the EBF
 - o Listed steps for families to submit a pre-authorization
- Allowed the use of FTC and FES-EO scholarship funds for individual classes, clubs, sports, etc. at an eligible private school other than where student attends on a full-time basis
 - o FES-EO and FTC handbooks (UA and PEP students could already do this)
 - o Added eligible expense category
- Removed language from FES-UA handbook requiring a student to be six years old by September 1 of the school year applied for to be in first grade.
- Clarified New Worlds Scholarship Accounts eligibility language
 - o Specific eligibility language requested by the Department of Education
 - The new language doesn't change anything we do or how the program operates, only explains it more clearly



What is



Benefits of the 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.



MyScholarShop New Vendor Alert



Company Name	Description of Services	Website
Guide Dots	Guide Dots is a hybrid between YouTube drawing videos and Connect-the-Dots. It is an in-home art program with a unique HANDS ON method that teaches REAL art skills.	https://guide- dots.com/
ibrick	ibrick is an online after-school club subscription, where children can learn and explore our world through play. Using the ibrick kit you could build hundreds of models while learning STEM and much more!	https://www.ibrick. online/
CURIOSITY CHRONICLES	Curiosity Chronicles is a secular, inclusive, world history curriculum for elementary to high school students. Our books are told in a dialogue format as Ted and Mona discuss history back-and-forth, ask questions, tell stories, and look for answers. Our unique textbook style brings history to life and teaches critical thinking skills. Curiosity Chronicles books are interdisciplinary, covering science, art, philosophy, culture, and more along with the traditional wars and politics of history.	https://www.curiosi tychronicles.org/



MyScholarShop New Vendor Alert



	Company Name	Description of Services	Website
	LEARN WITH MOCHI	Mochi engages your child in computing and problem-solving through hands-on code, interactive storytelling, and DIY assembly. Children learn at their own pace and challenge themselves by designing their characters, experimenting with coding commands, and exploring new subjects.	https://learnwithmo chi.com/



MyScholarShop Resources





Navigating MyScholarshop in EMA



Parents: Finding Services and Providers in the Marketplace





Purchasing Guid Hot Topics

Learning Manipulatives & Creative

Play Items

&

At Home Classroom Furnishings



Important Note:

Games or puzzles with content that may pose a threat to the student or others or that promote violence or criminal behavior are ineligible for purchase

FTC/FES-EO PEP Purchasing Guide pg.11

Approved Items For Tactile Learning Academic Practice Or Creative Play



Legos



Dominoes/Marbles Chess/Checker Sets



Dolls (and accessories)



Puzzles



Dress Up Clothing



Stuffed Animals



Board Game



Play Kitchens



Blocks



Card Games



Water Tables

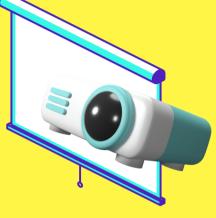


Approved Furnishings Used To Create An At-Home Classroom

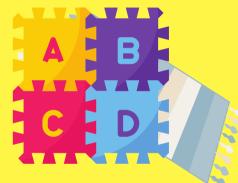
FTC/FES-EO PEP Purchasing Guide pg.11



Whiteboards



Indoor Projector/
Standing or DropDown Screens



Rugs or Foam Tiles



Desk/Chair (age/size appropriate)



Timers/Clocks



Maps/Globes/Atlases



Educational Posters/Visual Supports



Bulletin Boards



Architect/Drafting Table (age/size appropriate)



Storage (including bookshelves and storage or organization containers)





FTC/FES-EO PEP Purchasing Guide pg.11

Ineligible Items & Purchase Frequency for At Home Classroom Furnishings



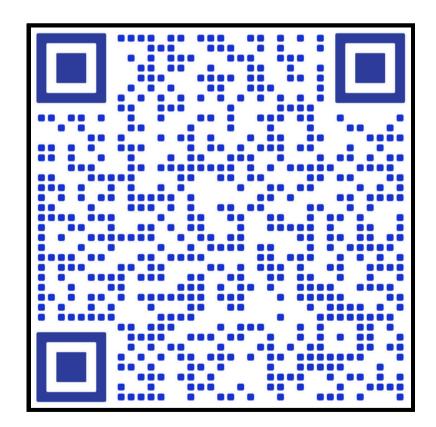
- Multiple of a single At-Home Classroom Furnishings item that exceeds \$50 Requires a Pre-Authorization
- At-Home Classroom Furnishings may be purchased once every 2 years.
- At-Home Classroom Furnishings projectors may be eligible sooner than once every two (2) years with a pre-authorization



Step Up Personalized Education Program

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



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 Form

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.

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:

Lyne De

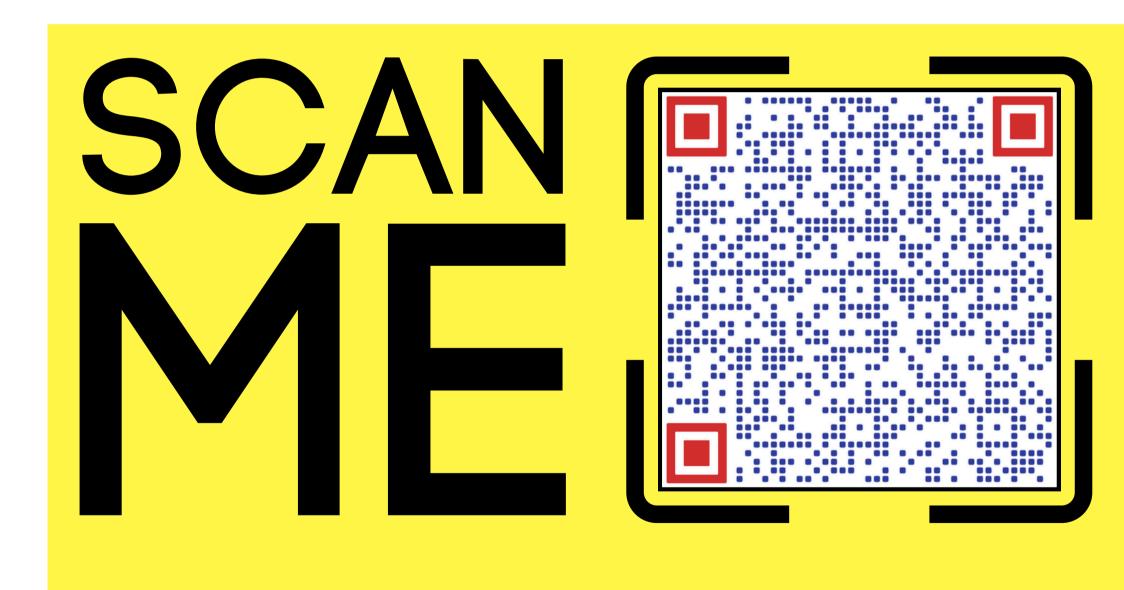
PLEASE NOTE: Any violation of the FES/FTC scholarship statutes, rules, policies, or procedures may result in the loss of the scholarship, ineligibility for future scholarships, or financial or criminal penalties. Please see the Parent Handbooks for <u>FES-UA</u> or <u>FES-EO/FTC/PEP</u>.



Reimbursement 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



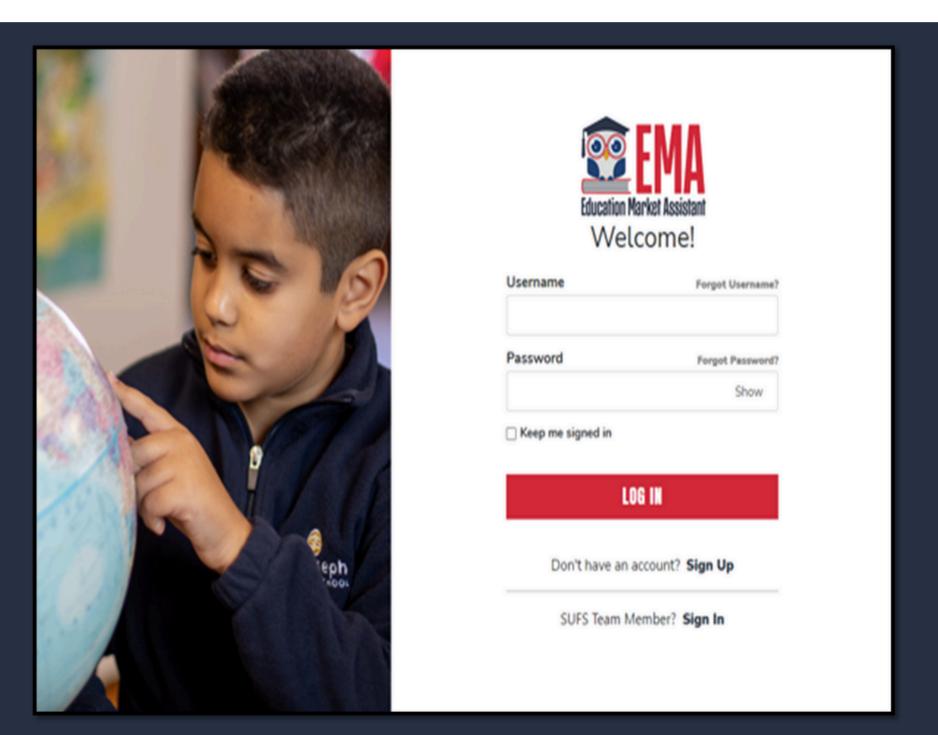
Guardians Reimbursement Guide

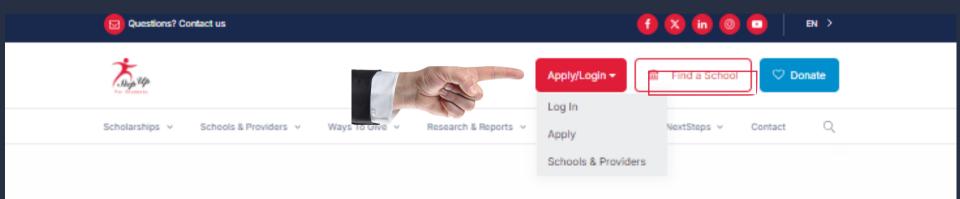


Parent/Guardian: How to Submit a Pre-Authorization in EMA









Please visit

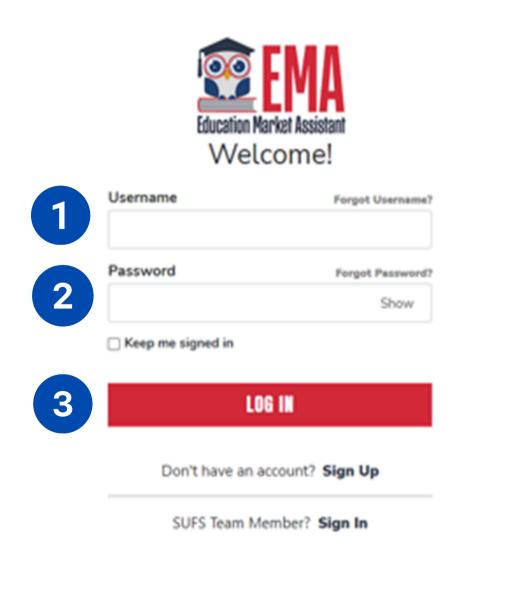
<u>apply.stepupforstudents.org</u>

to access your account, or log in on our website by selecting the option provided below.



1.Enter your username.2.Enter your password.3.Click the red 'Log In' button.



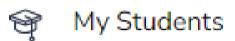












\$_ Expenditure Requests

Marketplace

Reimbursements

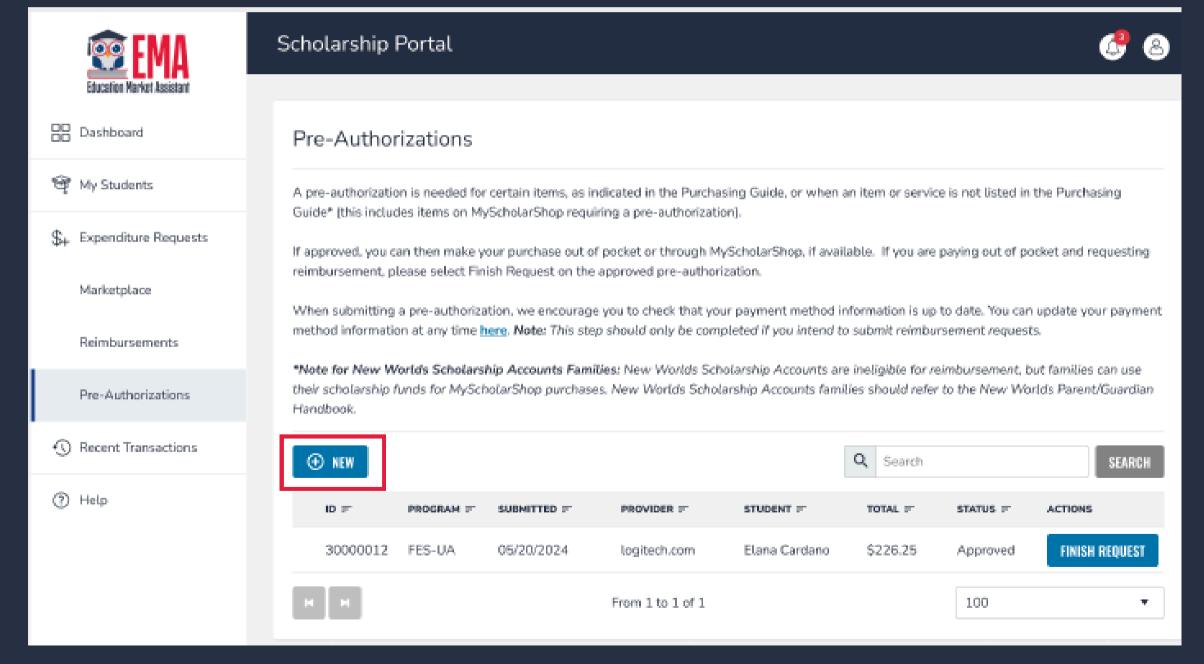


Pre-Authorizations

Recent Transactions

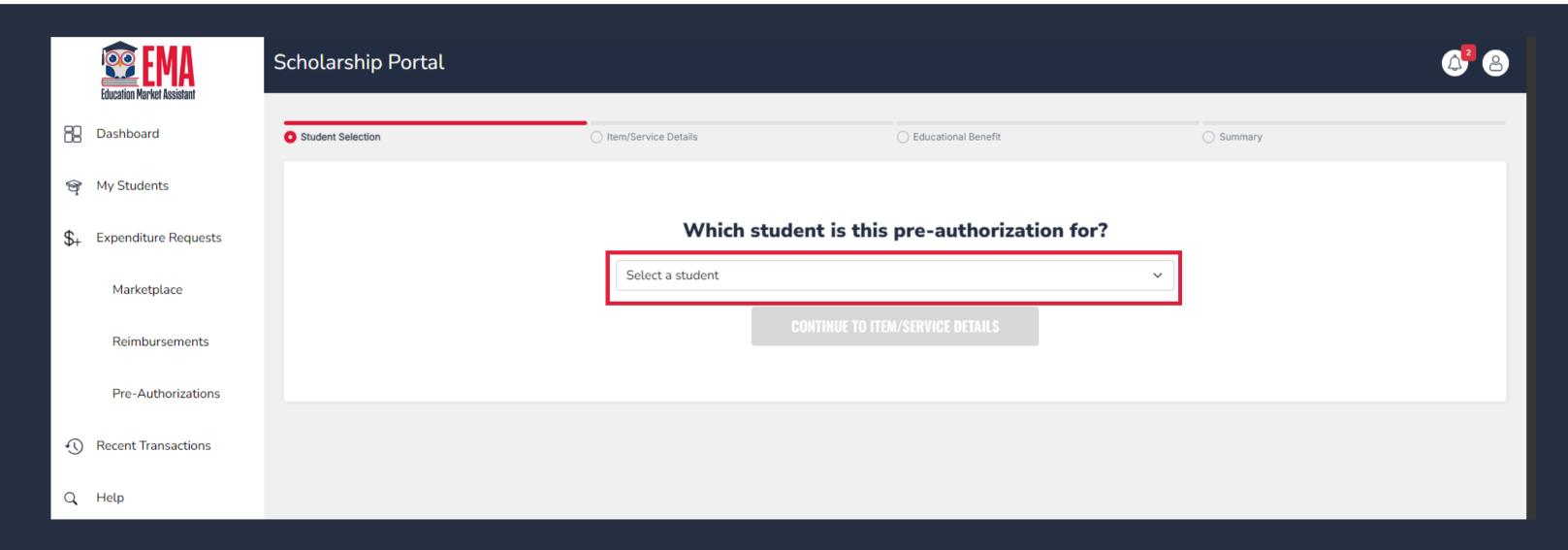
Q Help





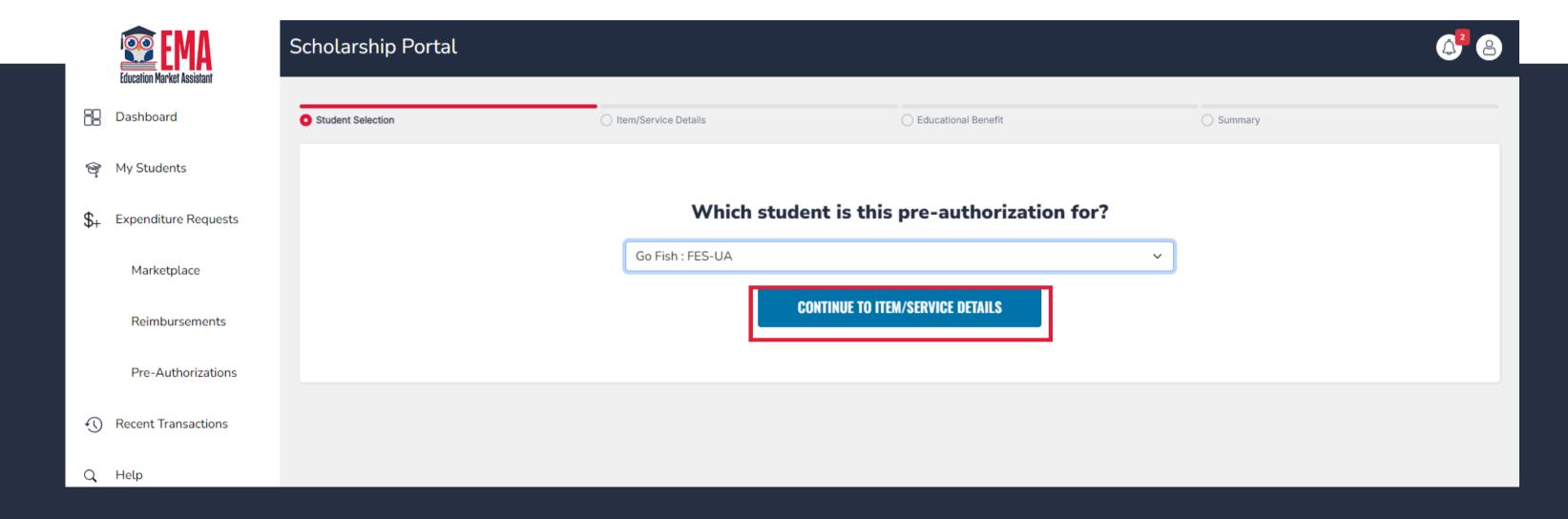
Click the button to initiate a Pre-Authorization request.





Select the student's name from the dropdown menu for whom you wish to generate a Pre-Authorization.

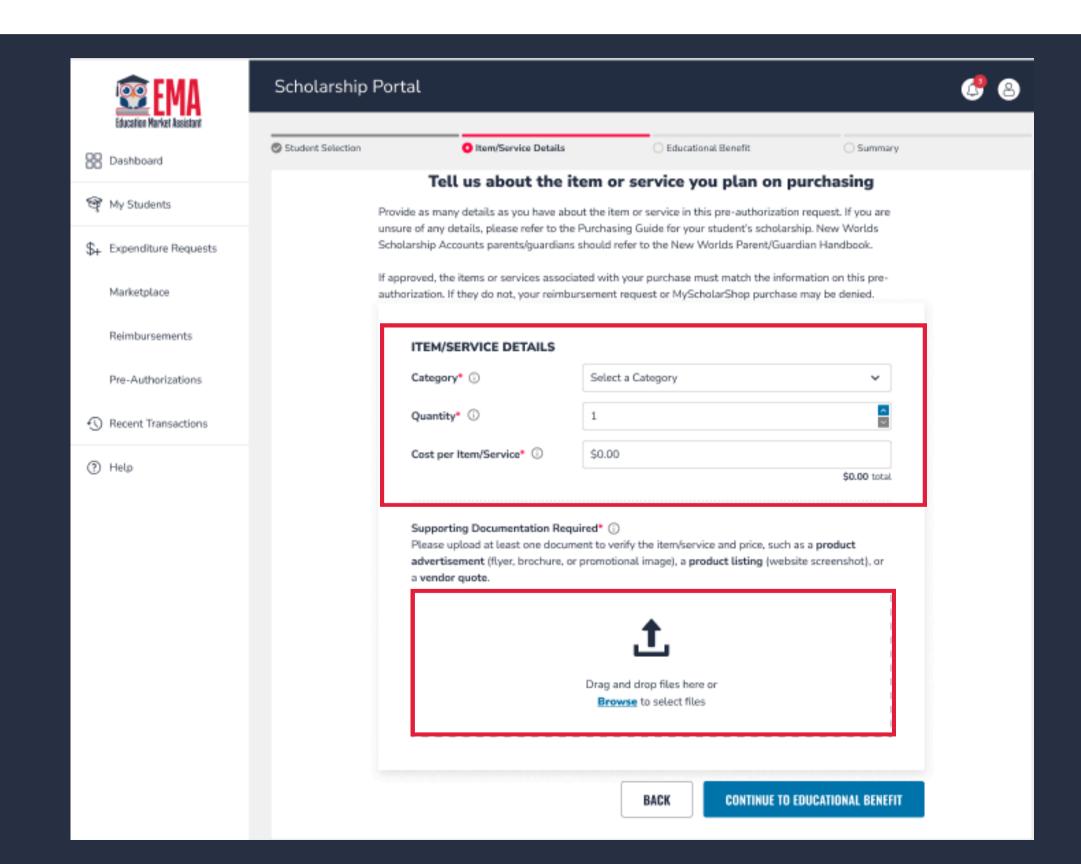




Once you have chosen your student from the dropdown menu, please click the continue to ITEM/SERVICE DETAILS button to continue.



Ensure that all fields are filled out thoroughly and that all supporting documents are uploaded.





Once you have thoroughly completed all fields and uploaded all necessary supporting documents, click the

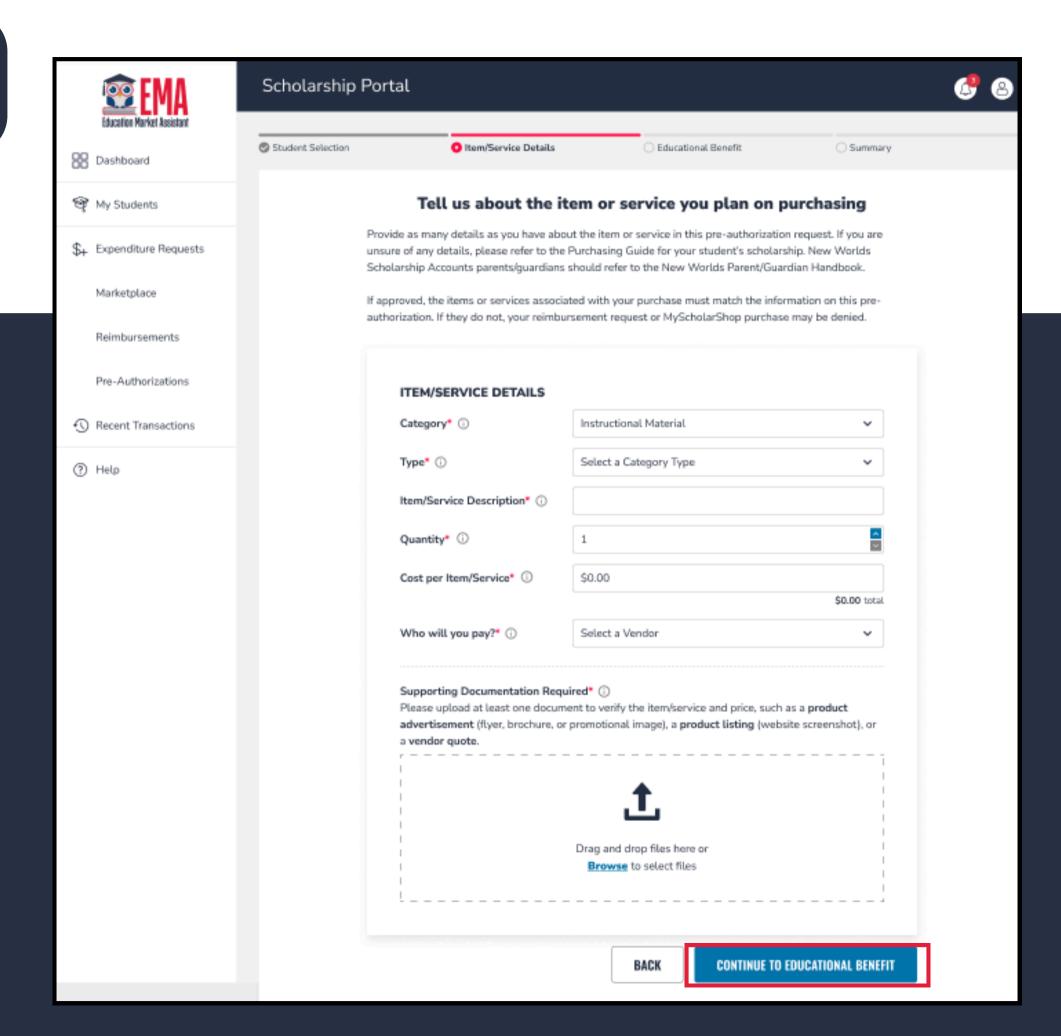
CONTINUE TO EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT

button to move

forward.



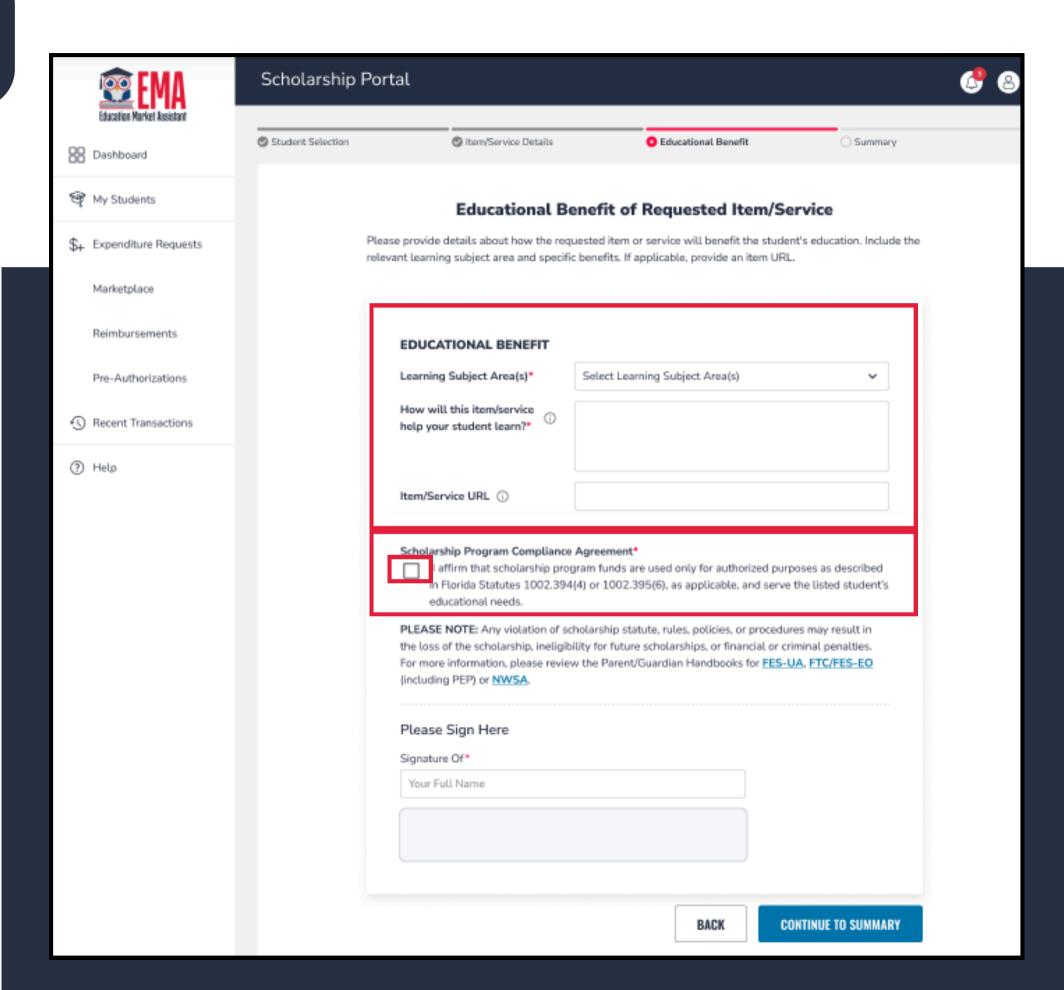
The EBF no longer needs to be uploaded, it will be completed in EMA.





Please complete all fields thoroughly and provide as much detail as possible.

Additionally, make sure to check the box confirming your agreement with the scholarship program compliance.





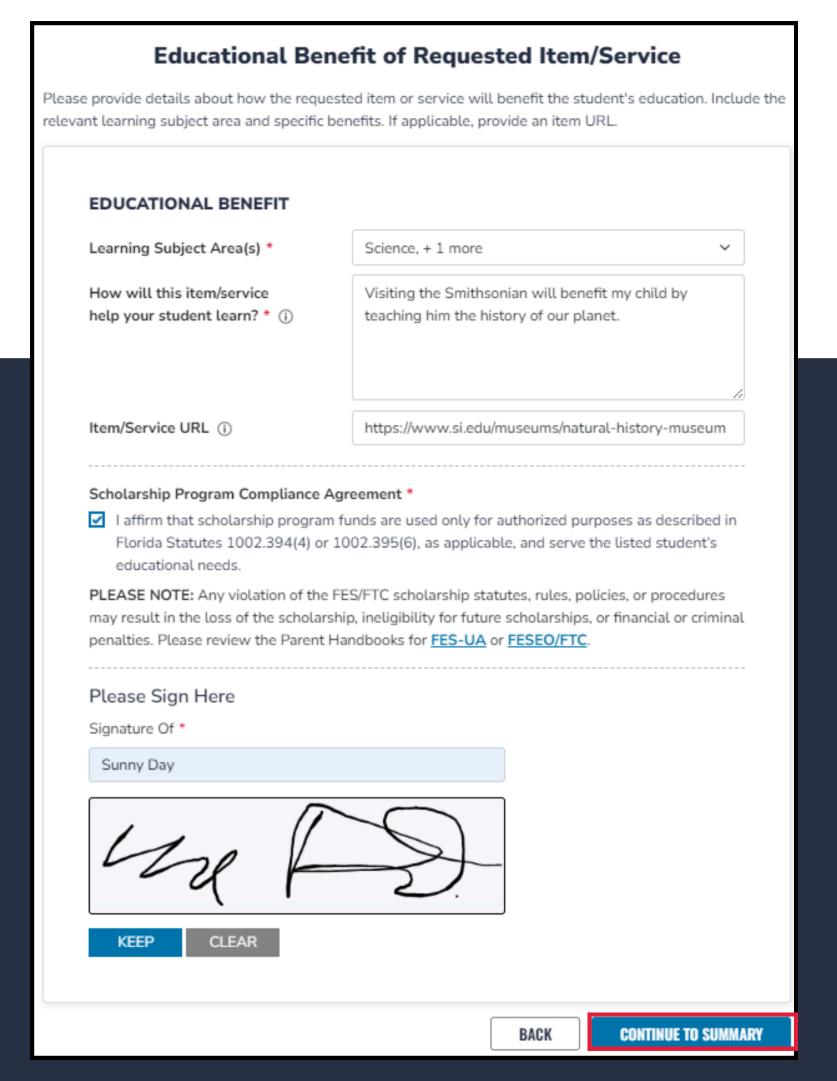
After signing, please choose either the button or the button to clear your signature and sign again.





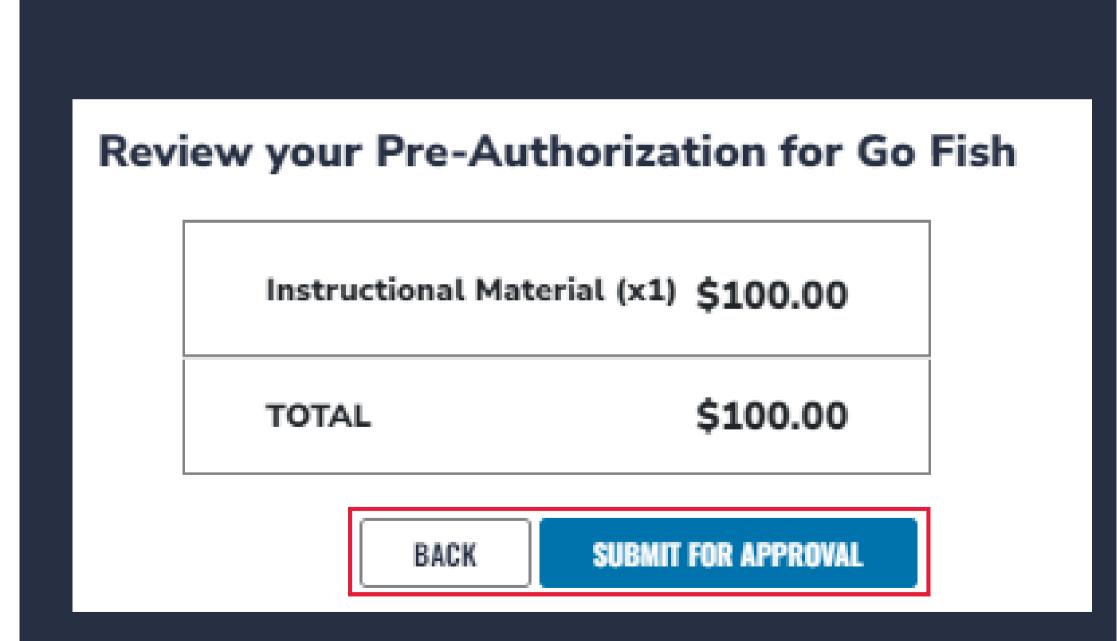
Once you have completed all the fields, signed the form, click the

CONTINUE TO SUMMARY button to move forward.





You can now submit your request for approval by clicking the SUBMIT FOR APPROVAL button, or if you need to make changes, you can navigate back to edit the Pre-Approval form by clicking the BACK button.





Important to note: A reimbursement request should only be made once the pre-authorization has been approved.

Next Steps:

- Click the REQUEST A REIMBURSEMENT button to request a reimbursement.
- Alternatively, click the REQUEST AMOTHER PRE-AUTHORIZATION button to submit another Pre-Authorization.
- You can also click on the Check the status of your pre-authorization requests link to check the status of your Pre Authorizations.

Thank you! We've received your pre-authorization request!

Thank you for submitting your pre-authorization request.

Next Steps:

- You will receive an email once your pre-authorization request has been reviewed. You may also view the status of your pre-authorization request at any time by viewing the Pre-Authorization page in EMA.
- If approved, you can then make your purchase out of pocket or through MyScholarShop, if available. If you are purchasing out of pocket and requesting reimbursement, please select Finish Request on the approved pre-authorization.

You may not submit a reimbursement request or make a MyScholarShop purchase for an item/service requiring a pre-authorization request until the request has been approved.

REQUEST A REIMBURSEMENT

REQUEST ANOTHER PRE-AUTHORIZATION

Check the status of your pre-authorization requests



Pre- Authorization: Approved Status

If Pre-Authorization is approved, you will receive the following email message:

Thank you for submitting a pre-authorization request for the following:

- Student Name
- Item/Service Name
- Approved Reimbursement Category
- Item/Service Quantity
- Pre-Authorization ID Number

The pre-authorization request for this item/service has been approved.

Next Steps:

- Log in to EMA. Go the Pre-Authorization tab on the left panel of the Dashboard.
- Click the Finish Request button next to the approved pre-authorization.
- Choose how to complete the Pre-Authorization. You can select one method: Reimbursement or MyScholarShop. Once selected, please follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process.







This is the email you will receive if your Pre-Authorization is Approved

Scholarships for Florida Schoolchildren



PRE-AUTHORIZATION NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The pre-authorization request(s) for the item or service below is approved.

NEXT STEPS:

- To purchase this item through the Marketplace, please log in to your <u>EMA</u> account.
- To seek reimbursement after purchasing the item/service, please submit reimbursement requests in <u>EMA</u>.

IMPORTANT: You must add the pre-authorization number (listed above) for requests in the reimbursement comments section. This will allow Step Up to verify if the pre-authorization request(s) was approved.

Questions?

☐ Chat with a live agent at www.sufs.org.

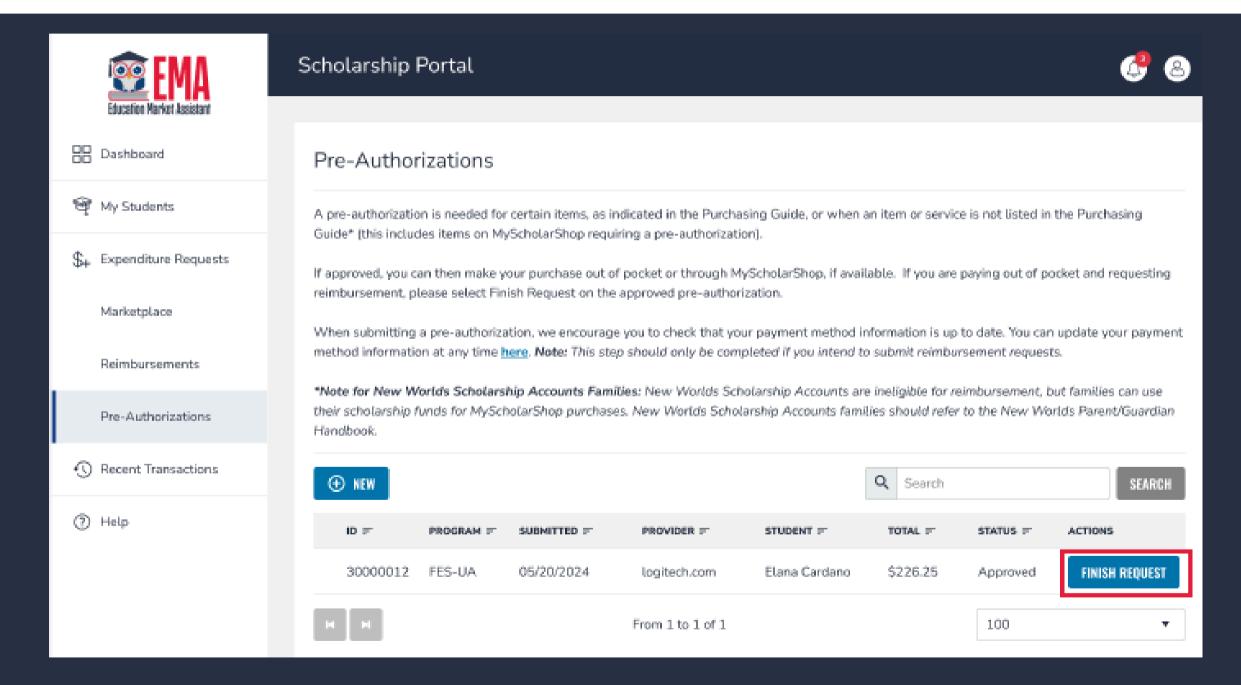
Please click here to view our contact information.

Thank you,

Step Up For Students







Once your Pre-Authorization is approved, you will see the **FINISH REQUEST** button.

Please click the **FINISH REQUEST** button to continue with the reimbursement process.





This pop-up will appear, prompting you to choose the option that meets your needs and then click

CONTINUE

button.



You may only select one of the following options to proceed with your approved preauthorization request:



Reimbursement

Choose this option if you have already purchased the item and wish to submit a reimbursement request.



MyScholarShop®

Choose this option to purchase the approved item directly from MyScholarShop®.

CANCEL

CONTINUE





After choosing the reimbursement option and clicking continue, a popup will appear. Please click the

CONTINUE TO REIMBURSEMENT

button to move

forward.

Note: You will then be redirected to the reimbursement screen.

Are You Sure You Want to Create a Reimbursement from this Pre-Authorization?

Once you CONTINUE TO REIMBURSEMENT, you may still choose to use MyScholarShop® to complete this Pre-Authorization, but you will first need to cancel your submitted Reimbursement.

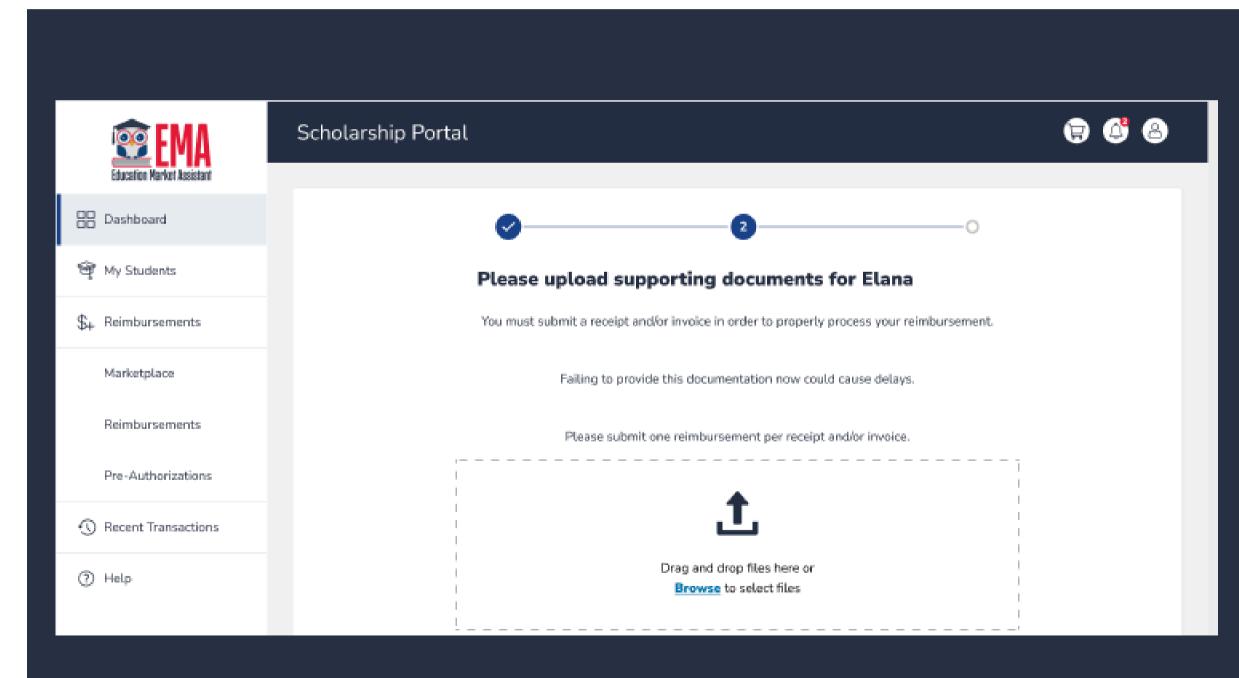
BACK

CONTINUE TO REIMBURSEMENT





On the reimbursement screen, upload your supporting documents and then click the CONTINUE button.

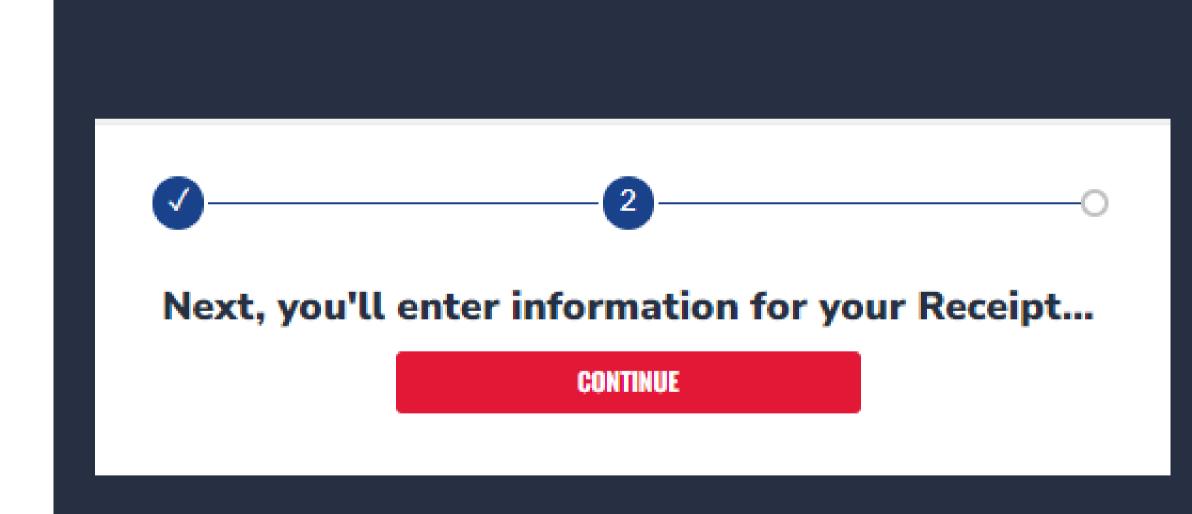






Next, please enter your receipt information and click button.

Please note: all the information from the Pre-Authorization has been transferred and filled out, and it cannot be edited.







On the reimbursement screen, please fill in the following fields:

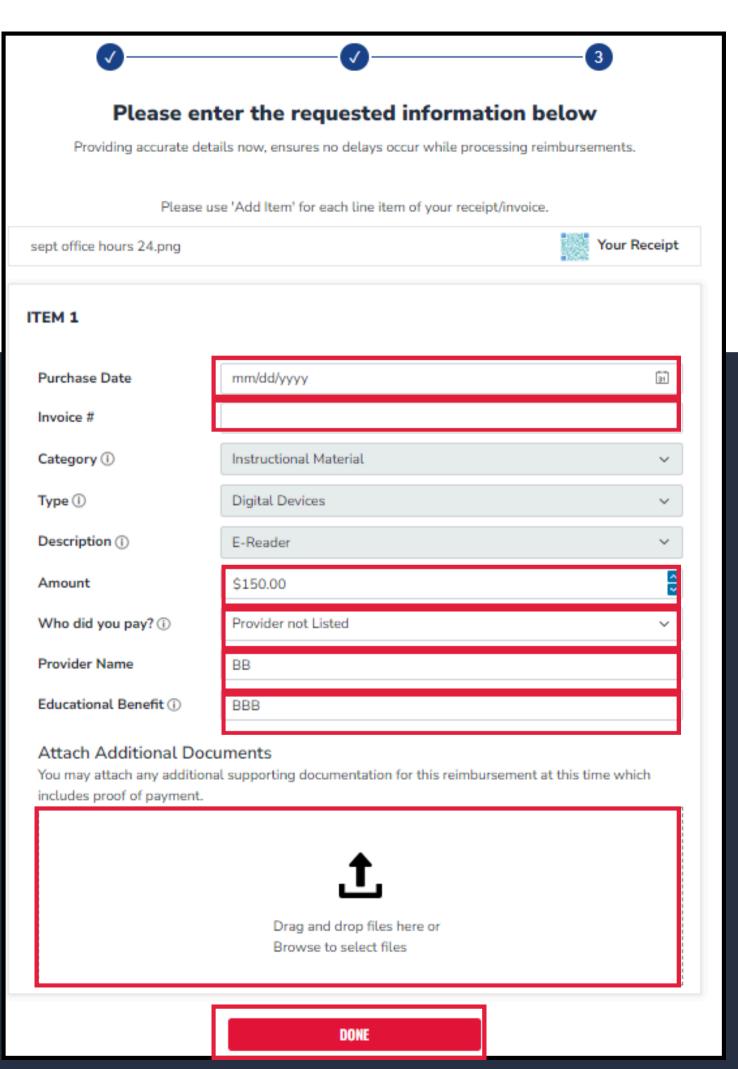
- Purchase Date
- Invoice number
- Amount
- Who did you pay
- Provider Name
- Educational Benefit

Please Note the following boxes cannot be changed

- Category
- Type
- Description

Then upload your supporting documents and click the button.



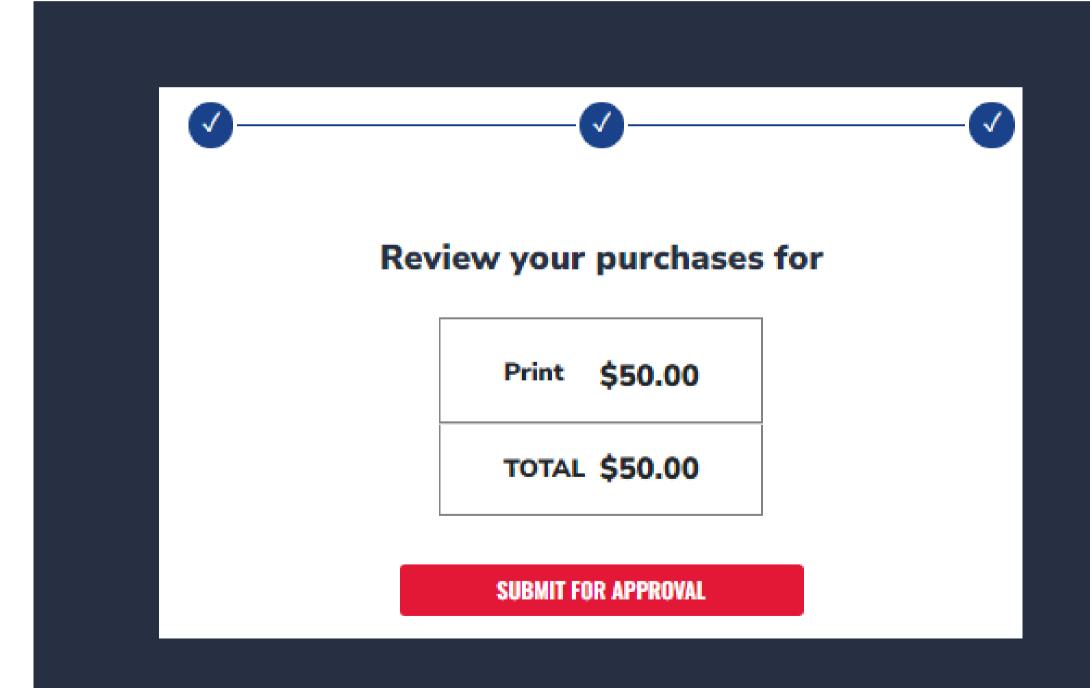






Next, click the button, and you'll be directed to this screen.

Please then select the SUBMIT FOR APPROVAL button.







You have successfully submitted your approved pre-authorization request for reimbursement.







Thank you! We received your reimbursement request.

One of our team members will review your reimbursement request soon. You will receive a notification via email once your reimbursement has been processed, or you can check back here for status updates.

REQUEST ANOTHER REIMBURSEMENT

Check the status of your reimbursements



Pre-Authorization Status

If Pre-Authorization is placed on hold:

Thank you for submitting a pre-authorization request for the following:

- Student Name
- Item/Service Name
- Item/Service Quantity
- Pre-Authorization ID Number



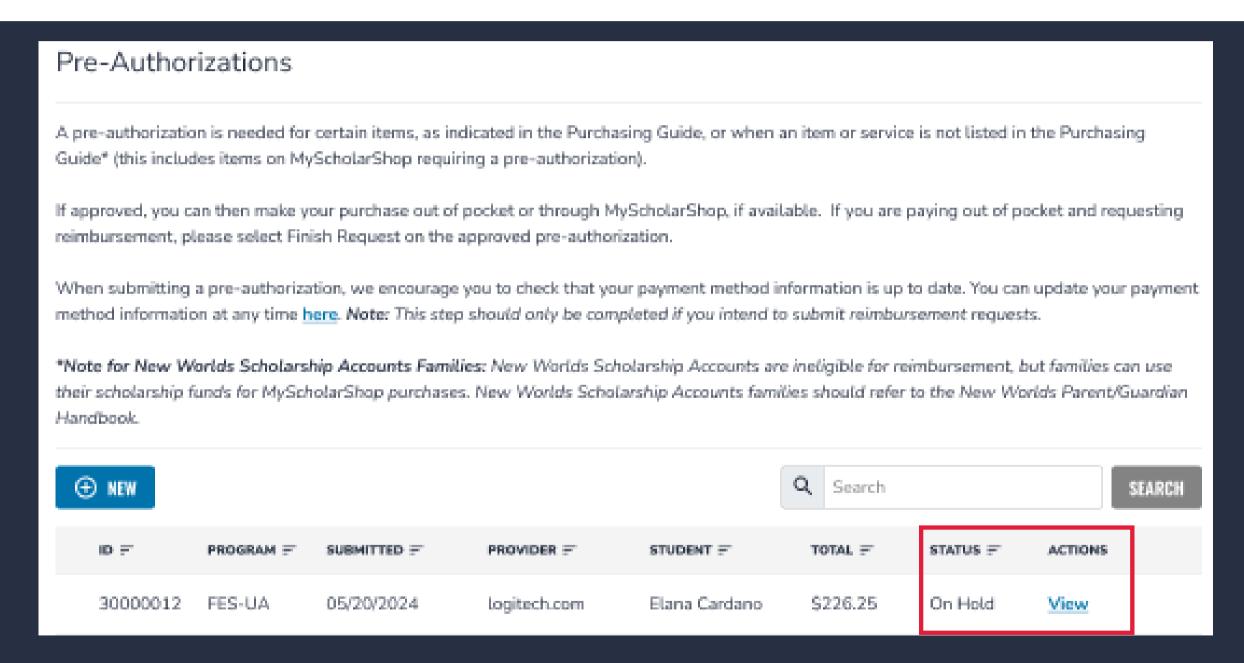
This pre-authorization request for this item is on hold for the following reason:

On hold reason stated

Please log in to EMA to provide the required information and resubmit the pre-authorization.







What to Do If Your Pre-Authorization Is On Hold:

Click the



button to unlock the Pre-Authorization.





Next, find the "On Hold" reason and the comments at the bottom of the page.

Once you're ready to move forward, please click the button.

Reason for Hold:

Documentation provided is password protected

Comments:

Please upload Documentation that is not password protected.







After you have completed the necessary corrections or uploaded the required documents, please click the RESUBMIT button at the bottom of the page or select the CAMCEL button to return.

Delete jw.png
Delete agreed u

Reason for Hold:
Documentation provided is password protected

Comments:
Please upload Documentation that is not password protected.

CANCEL

RESUBMIT





If you choose the RESUBMIT button you would see this pop up.

Pre-Authorization Resubmitted

Thank you! Your pre-authorization has been successfully resubmitted.

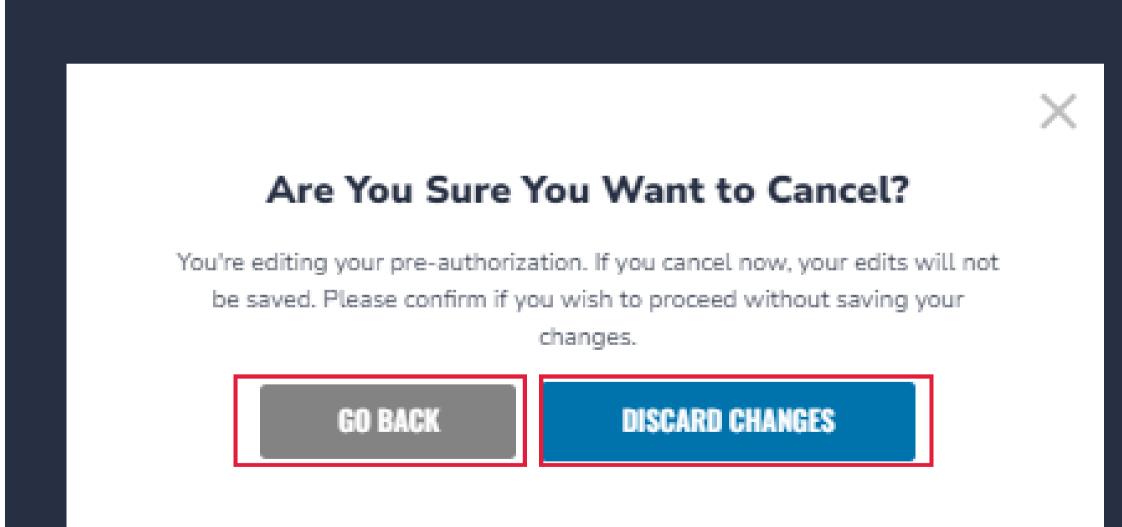
You will receive a notification once your pre-authorization has been reviewed.

BACK TO PRE-AUTHORIZATION





If you click the **CAMER** button this pop-up will appear. Please choose the action you would like to proceed with.





Pre-Authorization Status

Please Note: No further action is needed due to the fact Denied Pre-Authorization Requests cannot be appealed.

If Pre-Authorization is denied:

Thank you for submitting a pre-authorization request for the following item:

- Student Name
- •Item/Service Name
- Item/Service Quantity
- Pre-Authorization ID Number

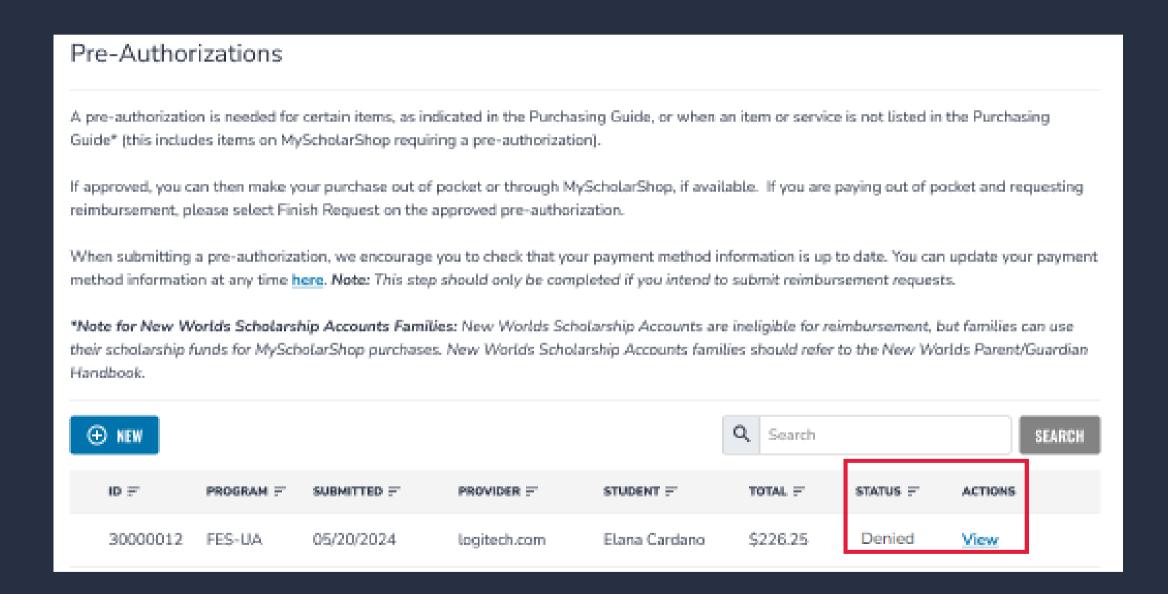


The pre-authorization request for this item has been denied because of the following reason:

Denial reason stated







What to Do If Your Pre-Authorization is Denied:

Click the button to reopen the Pre-Authorization request.





Next, find the reason for Denial and comments at the bottom of the page. This will clarify why the Pre-Authorization was denied. Please note that no further action can be taken.

Reason for Denial:

Outside of purchase frequency guidelines

Comments:

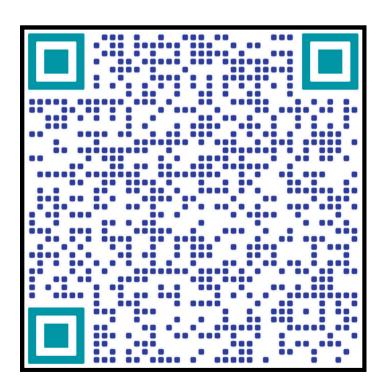
Only one per student every two years



Pre-Authorization

A step by step guide to submitting a Pre-Authorization in EMA

Please scan the QR code below or you can click the link to access the presentation also to your right you can click the link to access the YouTube video for this process.



Pre-Authorization Presentation



Parent/Guardian:
How to Submit a
Pre-Authorization
in EMA



Pre-Authorization Presentation YouTube Video



Scholarship Change Request

How can you decline your Students award?

Please contact our Customer Engagement Center at:

877-735-7837

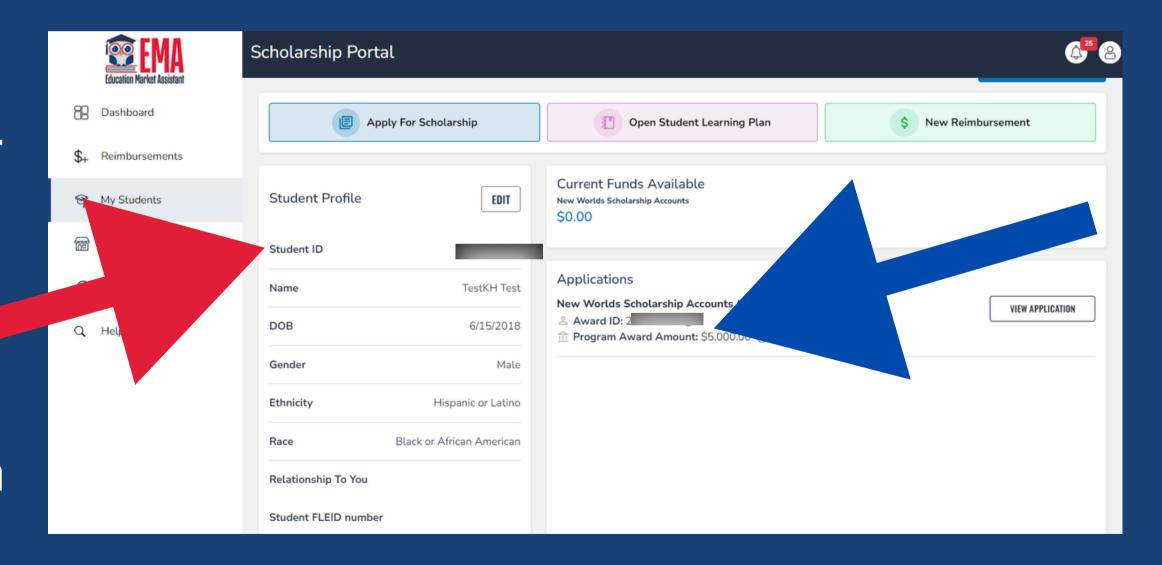
Required information that you will need to provide on the call

- Guardian's Name
- Guardian's e-mail address
- Student's Name and Student ID
- Reason for Decline



Award ID vs Student ID

Student ID:
Provide this number when speaking with the Engagement Center to decline your student's scholarship program



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



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

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



Sign up now for updates





2024-2025
Purchasing Guide



PURCHASING GUIDE

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options
Personalized Education Program





PEP Handbook Highlights



Personalized Education Program (PEP) 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 PEP scholarship.



SCAN PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

We would appreciate your input on the parent 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 *	
Please provide the email addre	ess associated with your EMA account.
Student ID * If you have multiple students of needed.	on an FTC/FES-EO/PEP Scholarship, only one Student ID is
Did your family utilize the FTC (2023-24 school year or earlier	:/FES-EO/PEP Scholarship for the previous school year? *
Select	•
How helpful did you find the F 1= Not helpful at all 5= Very helpful	TC/FES-EO/PEP Parent/Guardian Handbook? *
Select	•
How easy was it to find the inf 1 = Not easy at all 5 = Very easy	formation you were looking for? *
Select	•









Q: What is the time frame for reimbursement requests to be reviewed/processed?

A: Per the parent handbook pg. 25, please allow up to 60 days for a reimbursement request that includes all the required supporting documentation to be fully reviewed. Failure to include all of the necessary supporting documentation may result in processing delays.

Q: I am interested in the PEP Hybrid option for my student. Where would I find a list of schools in my area /county that are participating?

A: Please visit the Florida School Choice website https://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/information/privateschooldirectory/. Select your County and click on the PEP Hybrid Schools tab for a list of currently approved Providers.

Q: How can I return an item I bought on MyScholarshop?

A: Per the parent handbook pg. 24, returns are completed through the vendor they were purchased from and not through Step Up For Students. Items may not be returned to a store. Individual vendors list their return policies and instructions in MyScholarShop. Once the vendor has received the item, it may take up to a few weeks for the funds to be credited to the student's scholarship account.







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 here. Your input can have a meaningful impact on a child's educational experience. Thank you for your support.

Citrus

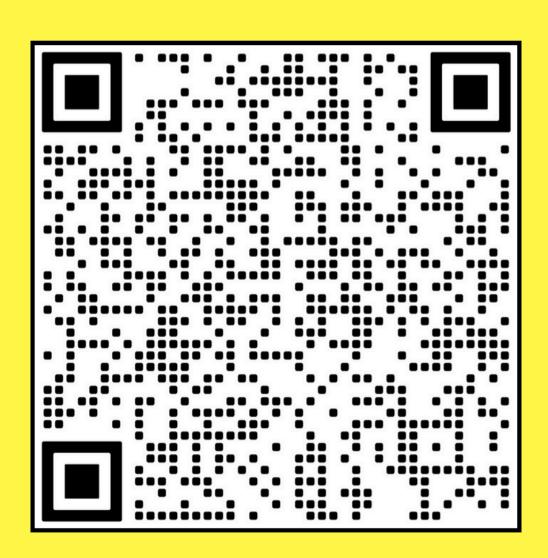
Gilcrest

- Hamilton
- Hendry
- GladesJefferson
- GulfLafayette
- HardeeLevy

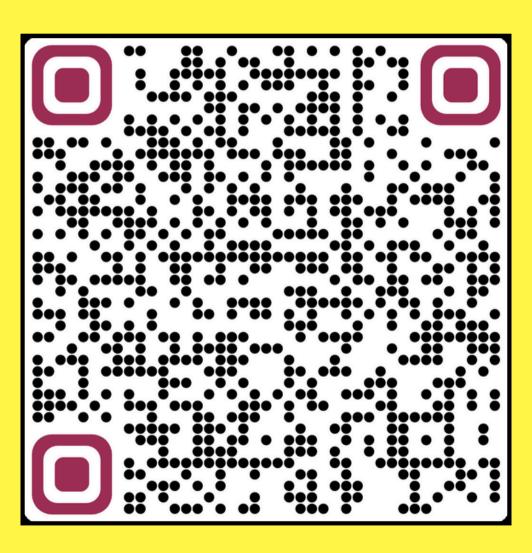
- Liberty
- Madison
- Monroe
- Taylor
- Union
- Wakulla



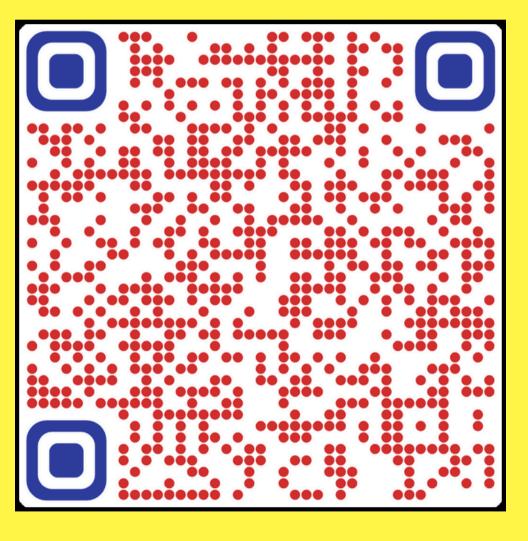
Past PEP Open Houses







October Open House



November Open House



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







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

<u>Transportation Open House</u>

January 15, 2024



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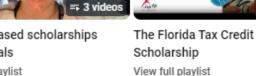
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Registration Link



