



Private School Scholarship Family Open House

September 7, 2023



AGENDA

- Communications
- Legislative Updates
- Scholarship Overviews
- Scholarship Updates
- Handbook Highlight
- Resources
- Q & A



Please note: We cannot answer questions about specific students; however, we can help with general questions you may have about FTC/FES-EO scholarship processes, coverage, and updates.

Your voice is important, and we're listening.

Here's how your feedback helped us in addressing your concerns





Communications

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



AWARD NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Congratulations! This email serves as confirmation that your student has been awarded a scholarship through the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship program or the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) program through Step Up For Students for the 2023-24 school year and should be showing as "Awarded" within your EMA account.

If you completed an FTC/FES-EO application for **more than one student**, you must check the "Scholarship Status" for each child you applied for. *Please follow the instructions at the bottom of this email to see where this information is found within your EMA account.*

Subject: Scholarship Award Notification
Sent:
(depends on the date the student was awarded)

Scholarships for Florida Schoolchildren



ENROLLMENT NOTIFICATION

Dear Parent/Guardian,

ACTION NEEDED: You have received a request to approve a School Enrollment Form from your student's school. A School Enrollment Form links your student to the selected private school for billing purposes. **As of 8:50 a.m. ET on September 5, 2023, the form still needed your review.**

Subject: ACTION NEEDED: Review your student's StepUp School Enrollment Form

Sent: Dates sent vary

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



Dear Parent/Guardian,

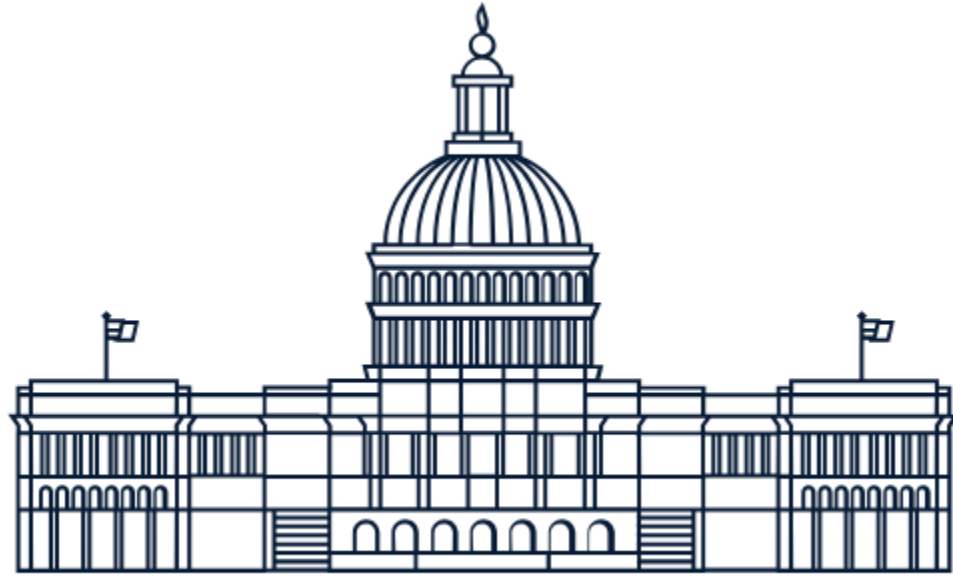
We are writing to let you know that a quarterly distribution will soon be made to the scholarship account of the student(s) named below.

For the 2023-24 school year, scholarship funds for students will first be deposited into the student's individual scholarship accounts. After a student's account has been funded, *the school must initiate the invoicing process in EMA* to generate payments from the student's account to their enrolled school.

As a reminder, when you confirmed your student's enrollment at your selected eligible private school, you consented to payments to the school in the amount of your student's agreed-upon tuition and fees or scholarship award amount, whichever is less. (Image below)

Subject: IMPORTANT NOTICE about your student's upcoming scholarship payment

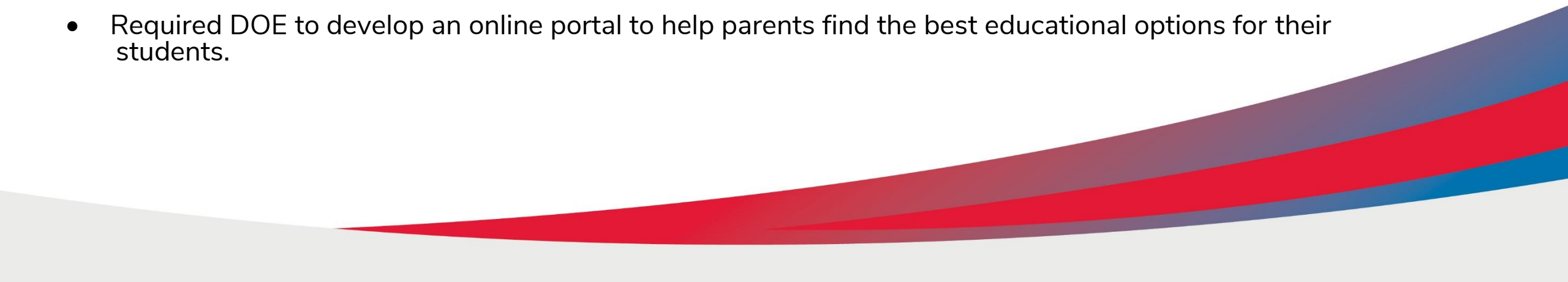
Sent: Dates sent vary



Legislative Updates

Legislative Updates: HB 1- School Choice

Family Empowerment Scholarship for Education Options and Florida Tax Credit Scholarships (FES-EO/FTC)

- All students in the state of Florida are eligible. Priority is given to three groups of students- renewal students, students whose household income is at or below 185 percent of poverty, and students whose households income is at or below 400 percent of poverty.
 - Both FTC and FES-EO have been converted to “education savings accounts”. The funds will first pay for tuition and fees at eligible private schools. Remaining funds can be used on instructional materials, tutoring, curriculum, fees for a norm-referenced test, tuition for full-time or part-time education at an eligible postsecondary education institution or approved apprenticeship program, contracted services for a public school or school district, services of a “Choice Navigator,” approved online courses or tuition as a private pay student at Florida Virtual School.
 - *Families can only spend ESA funds on eligible items after tuition and fees have been committed*
 - *FTC Students will NO LONGER receive 2 free FLVS courses*
 - Aligned transportation scholarship eligibility across programs.
 - Required DOE to develop an online portal to help parents find the best educational options for their students.
- 



For the latest legislative updates, including Frequently Asked Questions, visit our Legislative Updates page



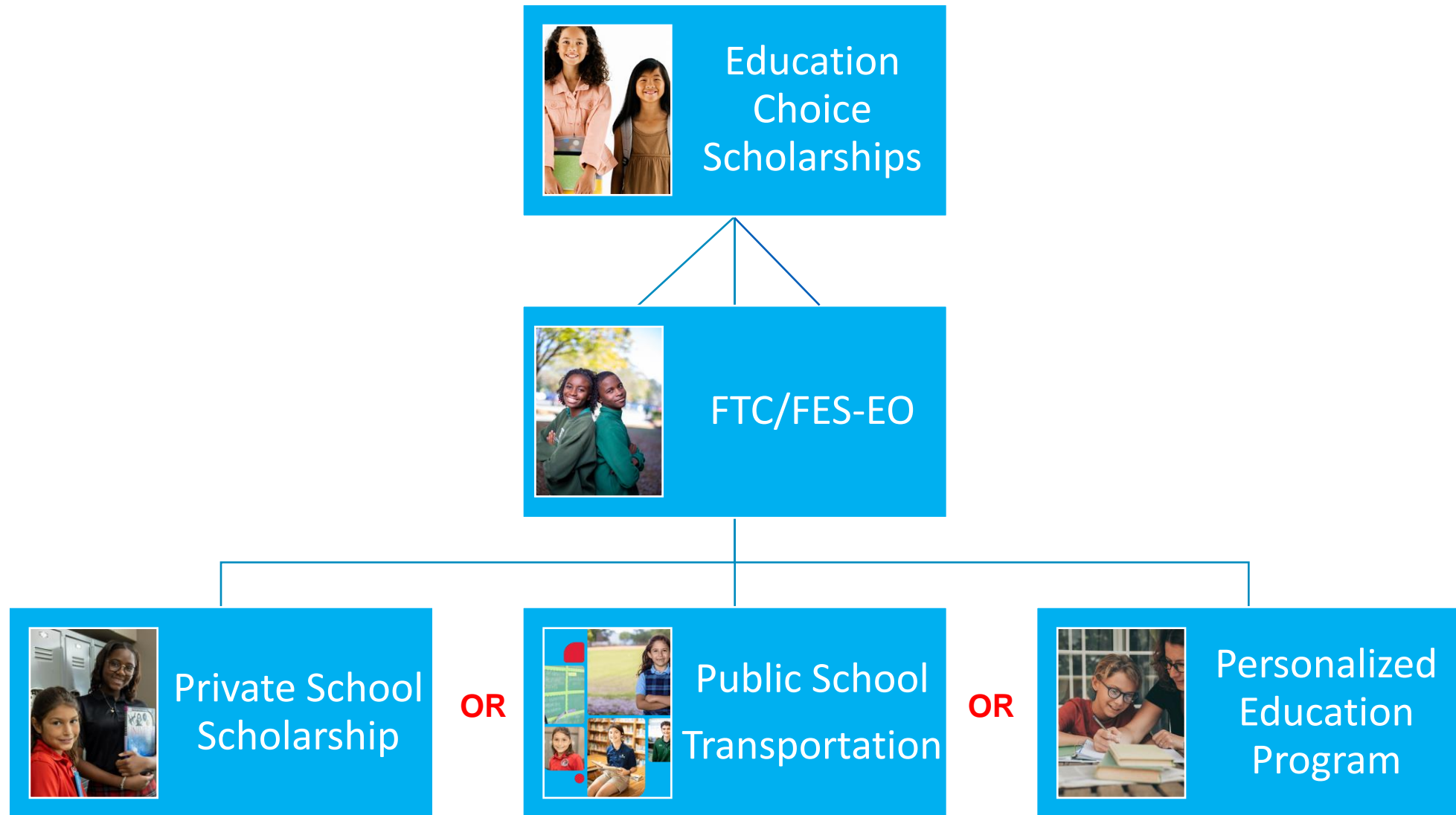
<https://www.stepupforstudents.org/legislative-updates/>

Scholarship

OVERVIEW



How the FTC/FES-EO Scholarships Work: K-12 Students



Families can only use ONE scholarship program! Requests to switch to another scholarship program must be submitted to our Service Center!



**Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC)
Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO)
K-12**

How the FTC/FES-EO Scholarships Work: K-12 Students

Private School

The scholarship will first pay for the following school expenses, in this order until maximum award amount is reached or until all fees are satisfied, whichever happens first:

Tuition – Books* - Registration – Transportation – Uniforms* - Testing – Other

*Applicable for books and uniforms sold by the school, not a third-party vendor

How the FTC/FES-EO Scholarships Work: K-12 Students

Private School cont...

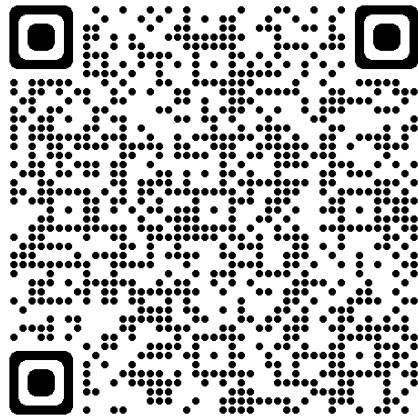
NOTE: If there are remaining scholarship funds, they may be used for the following:

- Instructional material (including digital materials and internet resources)
- Curriculum
- Tuition for part-time tutoring
- Tuition for full-time or part-time education at an eligible postsecondary educational institution or approved apprenticeship program
- Fees for nationally standardized norm-referenced tests and other assessments
- Contracted services provided by a public school or school district
- An approved online course
- Tuition as a private pay student at Florida Virtual School
- Fees for a “Choice Navigator.”

How the FTC/FES-EO Scholarships Work: K-12 Students

Public School Transportation

- Provides at least \$750 to K-12 [public school or charter school](#) students to help with the cost of transportation to attend another public school.



[Click here](#) or scan for 2023-2024 Scholarship Amounts



[Click here](#) for the Transportation Selection Form

How the Personalized Education Program (PEP) Works K – 12 Students

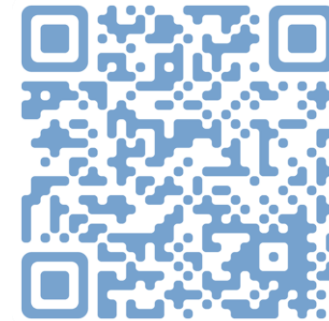
What is PEP

- PEP, funded through the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship, was created to serve Florida's families who would prefer not to enroll their child in public or private school and would like access to an education savings account to fund their student's learning directed by the parent.

Student Learning Plan

- A Student Learning Plan (SLP) is a customized learning plan developed by parents at least annually to guide instruction for their students and to address the services needed to fulfill the academic needs of their student.
- SLPs are only required for students on the Personalized Education Program.
- All other scholarship programs can utilize the SLP if they would like, but it is not required for their scholarship or funding.

Resources



SCAN HERE FOR PEP FAQ's



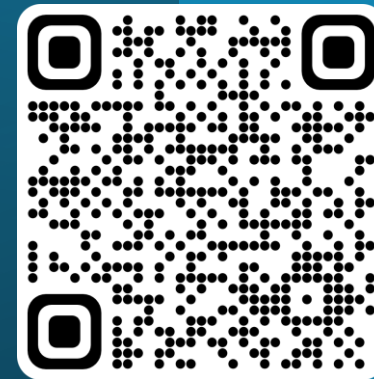
SCAN HERE TO REQUEST A SWITCH
TO THE PEP SCHOLARSHIP

COMING
SOON

STAY TUNED

Personalized Education Program (PEP) Webinar

9 AM, 12 PM & 6 PM



September 28th, 2023

IMPORTANT

**The
2023-2024
Application Season
for FTC/FES-EO is
still open! Please
share with other
families!**





Scholarship Updates

Funding Timelines

Funding for the **Florida Tax Credit (FTC)** Scholarship comes from tax credit funds raised from corporate donors by Step Up For Students. Funding for the **Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO)** comes from the State of Florida. Step Up For Students is required to award and enroll students first on the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and may not present students for funding under the FES-EO program until a certain threshold of Florida Tax Credit scholarship students have been enrolled.

Funds will be deposited on a quarterly basis in the student's account by Step Up For Students. Step Up For Students will receive funding from the Department of Education (for the FES-EO funding) on the following projected dates:

- August 1 (or when 75% of Florida Tax Credit Scholarships have been obligated, whichever is later)
- November 1
- February 1
- April 1

Funds will be deposited into the students' accounts within 14 days of receiving the funds from the state. Florida Tax Credit Scholarship funding will follow a similar timeline.

Funding Timelines cont. ...

Scholarship Funds for **Private School**, FES-UA and PEP students will be deposited into the student's scholarship account on or around the following dates:

- Quarter 1: August 15 – September 15
- Quarter 2: November 15 – December 1
- Quarter 3: February 15 – March 1
- Quarter 4: April 15 -May 1

After funds have arrived, families will be notified by email.

Please note, the dates above are for regularly scheduled funding distribution. Students who miss a regularly scheduled distribution may be paid in a supplemental payment.

This information may be found on page 7 of the FTC/FES-EO Handbook.

Handbook Highlight



Scholarship Amounts

The Family Empowerment Scholarship maximum allowable award amounts are based on the county of residence and grade of the student for the Eligible Private School and PEP scholarship programs, and the county of residence for the student for the Transportation scholarship.

Click [here](#) to view the 2023-24 Private School and PEP Scholarship Award Amounts.



FLORIDA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Basic Scholarship Amounts for 2023-24

If a student received scholarship funding in 2018-19 and has renewed and utilized the scholarship annually since, the amount of the award will be the greater of the amount calculated below OR these amounts: K-5th grade – \$6,519; 6-8th grade – \$6,815; 9-12th grade – \$7,111.

Note: The county is the one the student lives in according to their 2023-24 scholarship application.

District	Grades K-3	Grades 4-8	Grades 9-12
Alachua	\$7,915	\$7,288	\$7,226
Baker	\$8,487	\$7,842	\$7,779
Bay	\$8,003	\$7,376	\$7,314
Bradford	\$8,575	\$7,930	\$7,867
Brevard	\$7,971	\$7,344	\$7,282
Broward	\$8,070	\$7,428	\$7,365
Calhoun	\$8,805	\$8,160	\$8,097
Lake	\$7,877	\$7,250	\$7,188
Lee	\$8,369	\$7,734	\$7,671
Leon	\$7,970	\$7,343	\$7,281
Levy	\$8,611	\$7,966	\$7,903
Liberty	\$8,963	\$8,318	\$8,255
Madison	\$8,447	\$7,802	\$7,739
Manatee	\$8,051	\$7,424	\$7,362

Looking for the 2023 – 2024 scholarship amounts. Go to sufs.org, download our FTC/FES-EO Handbook, scroll to the bottom of page 6 – 7. The links for the scholarship amounts can be found there. (Amounts for the transportation scholarship are also noted in a separate link on the same page)

The image shows the word "RESOURCES" spelled out on a corkboard. Each letter is cut out from a white piece of paper and pinned to the corkboard with a colorful pushpin. The letters are: R (red), E (blue), S (black), O (orange), U (black), R (blue), C (red), E (orange), and S (black). The pushpins are in various colors: yellow, red, blue, and orange.

RESOURCES

HOW TO FIND YOUR USERNAME OR RESET YOUR PASSWORDS

The image shows the login page for the Education Market Assistant (EMA) system. At the top, there is a logo featuring an owl wearing a graduation cap, with the text "EMA Education Market Assistant Welcome!". Below the logo are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". To the right of the "Username" field is a link labeled "Forgot Username?". To the right of the "Password" field is a link labeled "Forgot Password?". Below the password field is a "Show" button. There is a checkbox labeled "Keep me signed in". A prominent red button labeled "LOG IN" is centered below the form. At the bottom, there are two links: "Don't have an account? Sign Up" and "SUFS Team Member? Sign In". Two red arrows point from text boxes on the right towards the "Forgot Username?" and "Forgot Password?" links respectively. The "Forgot Username?" link is highlighted with a blue border, and the "Forgot Password?" link is highlighted with a red border.


To retrieve your username, click the "Forgot Username?" link here

To reset your password, click the "Forgot Password?" link here



Check out the NEW Find A School search tool



 Find a School

 Donate

I'm unique. So is my education.

We empower Florida students with personalized PreK3-12 education scholarships.

[See Our Programs](#)

[Legislative Updates](#)



<https://www.stepupforstudents.org/>



Who we are

Schoolahoop is here to help! We're a free service that helps you discover more school options based on what's important for your child.

Schoolahoop is in Beta and supports PK-12th graders looking for schools in selected states. We are just getting started and need your feedback. Thanks for helping us better serve local parents like you!



Handbooks, Guides & Resources, oh my!

Program Overview

- [Scholarship Overview](#)

New Handbook Link

- FTC/FES-EO (including PEP) [Parent/Guardian](#)

Program Overview

- [Scholarship Overview](#)

Reimbursement Cards (*training to come...stay tuned*)

- [Reimbursement Card: Myth vs Fact](#)



FLORIDA CHOICE SCHOLARSHIPS

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS
FLORIDA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
PERSONALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM
SCHOOL & PROVIDER HANDBOOK

Questions? Call us today: 1-877-735-7837



Login

Apply Today

Do

Scholarships

Providers

Ways To Give

Research & Reports

About

Blog

reimaginED

Contact



Private School and Transportation Scholarships >



Family Empowerment Scholarship For Unique Abilities >



Hope Scholarship >



New Worlds Reading Scholarship >

Member Area

Alumni

Login

Parent Resources

MyScholarShop

Program Handbooks

Program Overview

Vendor and Product Listing

Find A School

Private School Directory

Find A Provider

Pre-Approved Reading Provider

Apply for the 2022-23 school year.

Apply Today

Private School and Transportation

Unique Abilities

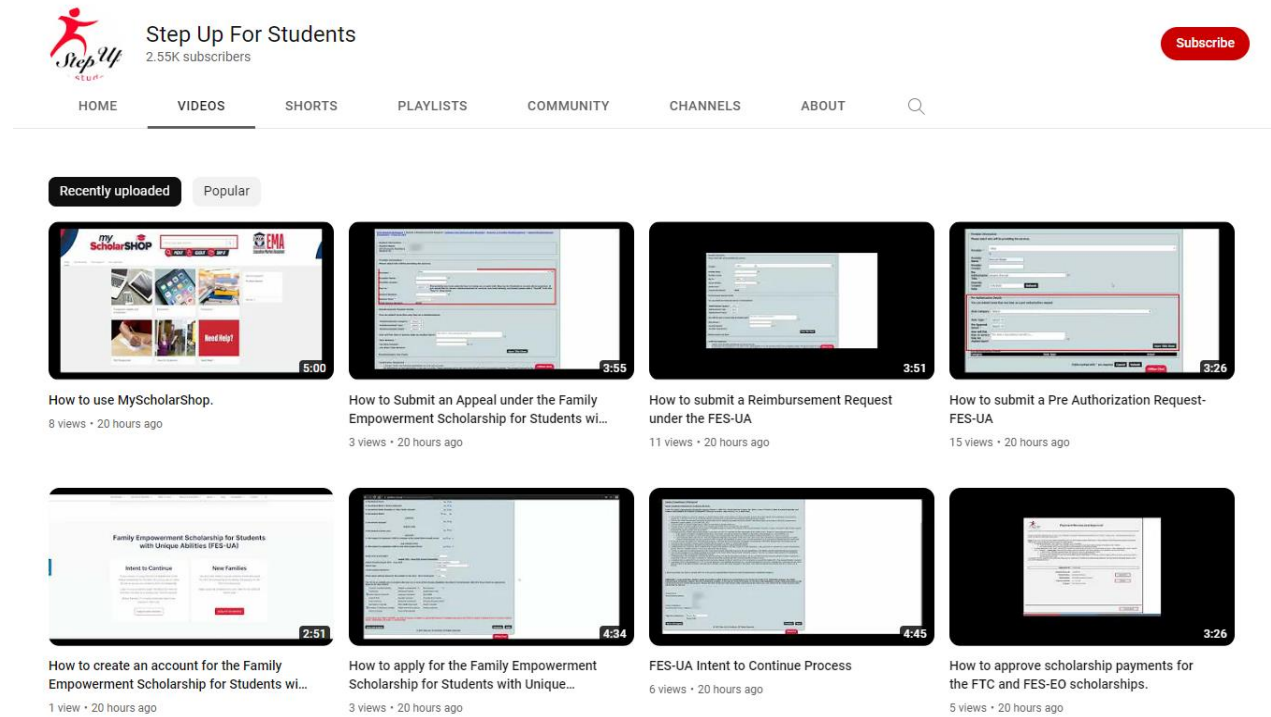
Hope Scholarship

Reading Schc

FLORIDA CHOICE SCHOLARSHIPS
FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS
FLORIDA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
PERSONALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM
SCHOOL & PROVIDER HANDBOOK



Subscribe to Our YouTube Channel!



The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for "Step Up For Students", which has 2.55K subscribers. The channel name is accompanied by a logo featuring a red figure jumping. Below the name are navigation tabs for HOME, VIDEOS, SHORTS, PLAYLISTS, COMMUNITY, CHANNELS, and ABOUT, along with a search icon. A red "Subscribe" button is located in the top right corner. The main content area displays a grid of eight video thumbnails under the "Recently uploaded" tab. Each video includes a title, view count, and upload time (all "20 hours ago").

Video Title	Views	Upload Time
How to use MyScholarShop.	8 views	20 hours ago
How to Submit an Appeal under the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students wi...	3 views	20 hours ago
How to submit a Reimbursement Request under the FES-UA	11 views	20 hours ago
How to submit a Pre Authorization Request-FES-UA	15 views	20 hours ago
How to create an account for the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students wi...	1 view	20 hours ago
How to apply for the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique...	3 views	20 hours ago
FES-UA Intent to Continue Process	6 views	20 hours ago
How to approve scholarship payments for the FTC and FES-EO scholarships.	5 views	20 hours ago

Known Challenges and Support

Issue *

Select the option below that best describes the issue that occurred while completing your application.

Select

Student ID

Provide the student ID of the student that you would like to remain active.

Note: To find your student ID, navigate to your "My students" tab, click view, Under the "Active Students" section, you will see your student ID number for each active student.

Parent/Guardian First and Last Name *

Please provide the guardian first and last name that you provided or planned to provide in EMA.

Student First Name *

Please provide the first name of the student.

Note: Please submit a separate form for each student for whom you experienced an application issue.

Student Last Name *

Please provide the last name of the student.

Note: Please submit a separate form for each student for whom you experienced an application issue.

Parent/Guardian Email Address *

Please provide the parent/guardian email address that you provided or planned to provide to manage your EMA account.

Scholarship Type *

Please select all of the scholarship applications that you attempted.

Select

File Upload

If you have a screenshot or image, upload it here.

Drag a file here to upload

Submit

Get Support - Step Up For Students

You may review the guidelines for the issues listed below. *If you've experienced an issue not addressed there, please be sure to complete the issue form.*

- I created a duplicate new or renewal student.
- I submitted a NEW student application instead of using the "Find Your Students" tool (RENEWAL application).
- I was unable to change my renewal student to active status.
- I received "Sorry, we couldn't verify your username or password. Please check your login details and try again" error message when trying to find my student.
- I received "We're sorry but we couldn't find any students associated with the account for that email address" error message when trying to find my student.
- I received "Oops, something went wrong on our end!" error message when trying to find my student.
- I received "It seems that your login credentials have been used previously to import the student(s) on this account" error message when trying to find my student.
- I did not upload all docs before I submitted my application.
- I submitted an application, but I need to add another student to it.
- I've been locked out of my account / I need to reset my password.



Please make sure to submit your form once it has been completed!

Registration Questions & Answers

Do I have to apply each year to maintain my FTC/FES-EO scholarship?

Answer: Students must complete a renewal application each school year to receive additional funding and remain active in the FTC/FES-EO program.

What occurs if we decide not to use the scholarship funds this school year?

Answer: Students who do not renew and receive FTC/FES-EO funding and “sit out” a year will lose renewal status and priority. Students who leave the FTC/FES-EO program and who choose to later reapply for an FTC/FES-EO Scholarship will be considered new students.

If your private school doesn't accept scholarship funds, can you put the money towards other educational resources?

Answer: NO. A FTC/FES-EO (non-PEP) student won't receive funds unless they're enrolled in an eligible private school.

Registration Questions & Answers

If one child is on the FES-UA scholarship, is my other child automatically eligible for a private school scholarship?

Answer: As of July 1, 2023, the Categorically Eligible group classification for FES-EO no longer exists. This means that no student is automatically eligible for an FES-EO scholarship based on a student/family attribute and all scholarship applications are subject to income prioritization.



**Frequently Asked
Questions & EMA Support**

Contact Us

Step Up For Students

 877.735.7837

Monday – Friday

8:00 AM – 6:30 PM





Help Us Serve You Better...

**PLEASE COMPLETE
OUR SURVEY!**

**Thank you
for attending
our webinar**

Upcoming Webinar

FTC/FES-EO

October 12th

See you next time!