

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

Purchasing Guide

Summary of Changes for the 2025-2026 Academic Year

INTRODUCTION:

Note that the revisions are based on survey results and input solicited from the public comments virtual sessions conducted in the spring of 2025.

GENERAL PURCHASING PROVISIONS:

Clarified that age-appropriate items must meet minimum age requirements.

Removed the requirement for a pre-authorization for multiples of a single item.

Removed the Educational Benefit Form as the Pre-Authorization Form already includes a request for clarification about the educational benefit of the item(s).

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Digital Periphery Devices

Added:

- Digital periphery bundle (can include keyboard/mice bundle)
- Case and screen protector
- Frequency of purchase rule that a computer monitor, headsets, printer, speakers, virtual and augmented reality headsets/goggles may be purchased only once every two (2) years. However, early replacement may be permitted with pre-authorization.

Removed (as they are already listed in the Assistive Technology Devices section):

- TTY/TDD conversion modems
- Switches and other devices that are unique to the student's needs

Assistive Technology Devices

Added:

- Prescription eyeglasses
- Hearing aids

Maintenance Agreements for Eligible Devices

Added:

- Warranties

Stand-Alone Online Class

This section was removed as all online courses are covered in Curriculum and Approved Online Providers

Physical Education (P.E.)

Added:

- Sports supplies such as balls and racquets
- Sports uniforms, including all required accessories
- Safety equipment

Removed:

- Pool tables from the prohibited items list

Sports equipment was defined to include basketball goals.

PE Equipment was defined to include home playset/swing set; two or three-wheeled bicycles; exercise equipment such as a stationary bike, walking pad, weight bench; sports tables like a ping pong table; and a kayak, canoe, surfboard, boogie board, skim board, and stand-up paddleboard.

Electives

Added:

- Photography/Videography classes or courses
- Programming/digital production supplies
- Drones
- Prohibited: Supplies that are considered general household expenses or improvement (e.g., irrigation systems, large appliances, chicken coops, and permanent greenhouses)

Field Trips and Other Activities Needed to Enhance Curriculum

Added

- Family memberships with reimbursement prorated to cover only the student's cost
- State/National Park admission
- Single-admission leisure events such as roller skating, ice skating, bowling, and trampoline parks (including equipment rental) under \$75
- The following theme parks:
 - Dinosaur World
 - Epic Universe
 - Gatorland

At-Home Classroom Furnishings

Added:

- CD/DVD/music players
- Frequency of purchase rule that a television, architect/drafting table, picnic table or projector may be purchased only once every two (2) years. However, early replacement may be permitted with pre-authorization.



School Supplies

Added:

- Adhesives
- Bento boxes are included as lunch boxes
- Scissors

Educational Software/Subscriptions

Added:

- Graphics/photo editing software

TUITION AND FEES

Eligible fees

Added an explanation to what “fiscal year preceding the academic year” for application fee and registration fee. This means the fees that you may pay in February (or spring) prior to the August enrollment.

Tuition and Fees at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution

Added links to the website that defines and identifies the postsecondary institutions.

STANDARDIZED TESTING FEES has been renamed to TESTING AND ASSESSMENTS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO APPROVED COLLEGE SAVINGS PROGRAMS

Florida College Savings Program

Added “529 Accounts” to the title of this section.

Appendix A – Summary of Prohibited or Ineligible Items

Added:

- Live mature or ornamental plants in containers that exceed one gallon.

Removed:

- Family memberships to gyms, YMCAs, libraries, museums or other facilities
- Family or multi-user subscriptions
- Hearing aids
- Pool tables



Appendix B – Items Requiring Pre-Authorization

Removed:

- Multiples of a single At-Home Classroom Furnishings item that exceeds \$50
- Multiples of a single digital periphery device that exceeds \$50
- Multiples of a single elective item that exceeds \$50

Appendix C – Items and Services Requiring Educational Benefit Form

This Appendix was removed as the Pre-Authorization Request Form already requires a statement identifying the educational benefit of the requested item.

