

Military Family Scholarship Application



Scholarship Qualifications

The Private School Scholarship and PEP Scholarship are available to students who are:

- Florida residents or dependent children of active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who have received Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders to Florida or renewing students whose home record or state of legal residence is Florida and have received PCS orders outside of Florida, and
- Eligible to enroll in grades K–12 in a Florida public school or received a Hope Scholarship in the 2024-25 school year.

The Unique Abilities Scholarship is available to students who are:

- Age three (3) or older (with a third birthday on or before December 31 of the year their parent or guardian applies for a scholarship) and eligible to enroll in a Florida public school (if applicable for their age).
- Less than twenty-two (22) years old.
- Florida residents, or dependent children of active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who have received PCS orders to Florida or renewing students whose home record or state of legal residence is Florida and have received PCS orders outside of Florida.
- Diagnosed with one of the following conditions: Anaphylaxis, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Emotional or Behavioral Disability, Hearing Impairment, including deafness, High-Risk Child, Hospital or Homebound, Identification as Dual Sensory Impaired or Intellectual Disability (severe cognitive impairment), Language Impairment, Muscular Dystrophy, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, Prader-Willi Syndrome, Rare Diseases (defined by NORD), Specific Learning Disability, Speech Impairment, Spina Bifida, Traumatic Brain Injury, Visual Impairment, including blindness, Williams Syndrome.

NOTE: Multiple applications are prohibited. Scholarship program statutes prohibit a student from applying for more than one scholarship for the same student at the same time.

Proof of Residency

Active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces who do not have a Florida residential address at the time of application but have received PCS orders must provide a copy of their PCS orders in the application documents and list the Florida address of the unit to which they are being assigned or from which they are being relieved.

Proof of Residency for Active-Duty Military Families Moving into Florida:

For students who are dependent children of active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces with Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders to move into Florida, but have not yet established residency, their parent or guardian should:

- Upload the PCS orders in the Proof of Residency section of the scholarship application.
- Be sure the physical address in their guardian profile matches the newly assigned unit address on the PCS orders they submit.

Once residency in Florida is established, the family should call Step Up For Students at (877) 735-7837 to provide an updated Proof of Residency. Students will not receive funds until an updated Proof of Residency is received and the physical address is updated in the guardian profile in EMA.



Proof of Residency for Active-Duty Military Families Living outside of Florida: (renewal students only)

- A copy of the PCS orders and Leave and Earnings Statement
- IRS Domicile 2058 or DFAS Form 702

Application Deadline Exception

Dependents of active-duty members of the United States Armed Forces can apply for a Private School Scholarship or PEP Scholarship at any time during the school year. Parents no longer need to call Step Up to have an application opened for their Military Family Scholarship student.

Note: Exceptions from the application deadline do not exclude students from the PEP Scholarship program capacity.

Parents and guardians of students who qualify for a deadline exception must:

- Apply by April 15, 2027
- Submit required documentation no later than April 22, 2027
- By May 15, 2027:
 - o Accept the scholarship award (for both the Private School and PEP Scholarships)
 - o Enroll (for the Private School Scholarship only) in an Eligible Private School through EMA