

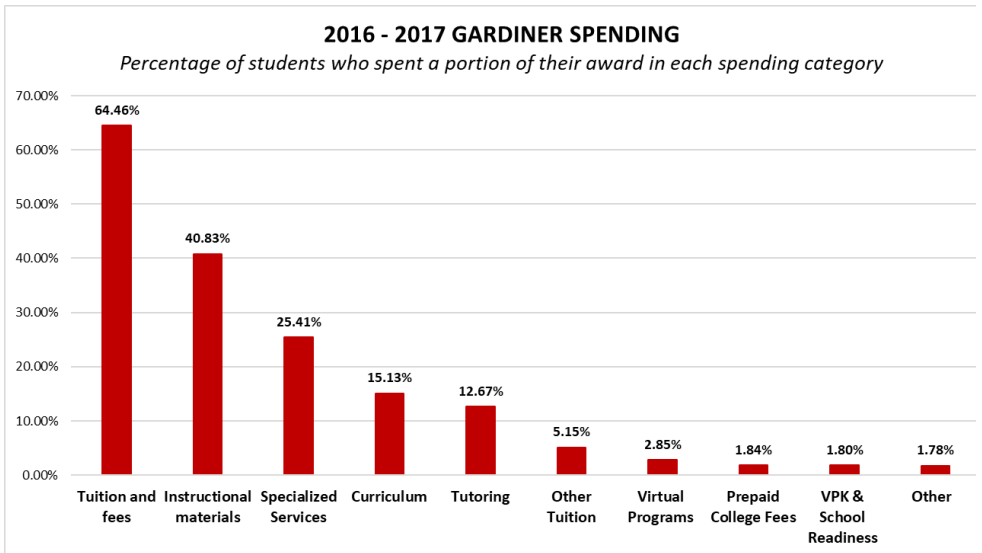
GARDINER SCHOLARSHIP



OCTOBER 2017

OFFICE OF POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The **Gardiner Scholarship** program allows parents to personalize the education of their special-needs children by directing money toward a combination of programs and approved providers. The Gardiner Scholarship amount varies per grade and county of residence. The average scholarship is around \$10,000, and funds may be rolled over from year to year.



2017-2018 FAST FACTS*:

- Almost 10,000 scholarships awarded
- Average scholarship amount = \$10,096
- \$103 million in scholarship funding
- 3,396 participating providers

*As of October 2017

WHO QUALIFIES?

Florida students 3 years old through 12th grade (or age 22) with an eligible diagnosis, including:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Cerebral Palsy
- Deaf, visually impaired, or dual sensory impaired
- Down Syndrome
- Intellectual Disability (severe cognitive impairment)
- Spina Bifida
- Traumatic brain injured
- Rare diseases (as defined by NORD)
- Kindergarten students deemed "high risk"



ELIGIBLE EXPENSES INCLUDE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Private school tuition & fees | ✓ Specialized summer & after school programs |
| ✓ Part-time & full-time tutoring | ✓ Instructional Materials |
| ✓ Therapy | ✓ Public school services |
| ✓ Postsecondary & transition programs | ✓ Online courses |

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