Program Summary
Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program

Through the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program and the Florida Sales Tax Credit (FSTC) Scholarship Program, dollar-for-dollar tax credits are provided to companies that redirect certain Florida tax liabilities to Step Up For Students, a state-approved Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO). The redirected tax dollars fund education scholarships for lower-income Florida children in Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Mission and Impact

Step Up For Students empowers parents to pursue and engage in the most appropriate learning options for their children, with an emphasis on families who lack the financial resources to access these options.

Parents use scholarships to send their child to a K-12 public or private school that provides the learning environment that best meets their child’s unique needs.

State researchers have studied the FTC program for 12 years, reporting that scholarship students are among the lowest performers at their prior school and, once on scholarship, see similar learning gains to all students nationally, regardless of income.

Additionally, a longitudinal study by the Urban Institute reported that FTC scholars are:

- 99% more likely to attend college
- 45% more likely to earn a Bachelor’s degree

Tax Credit Basics

- Reserve your 1:1 tax credits
- Remit your payment
- Report your credits

Scholarships are awarded to students, not schools, making them portable. On average, tuition scholarships are worth $7,393 and can be used at more than 2,100 participating schools.

Step Up has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator and has earned the GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Platinum Seal of Transparency. Step Up is 21st on Forbes’ list of America’s Top Charities and 18th on The Chronicle of Philanthropy’s list of America’s Favorite Charities.

Eligible Tax Liabilities

Credits are dollar-for-dollar for each eligible tax liability

- Alcoholic Beverage Excise – up to 90%
- Business Rent / Commercial Lease – up to 100%
- Corporate Income – up to 100%
- Direct Pay Sales and Use – up to 100%
- Insurance Premium – up to 100%
- Oil and/or Gas Production – up to 50%

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