

Florida's Income-Based Scholarships

September 2021



A LEARNING OPTION FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

Florida's two income-based scholarship programs, the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) and Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO), are serving more low-income and working-class students than ever before. Eligible students may choose between financial assistance toward private school tuition or with transportation costs to attend a public school in another district.

2020-21 STEP UP FAST FACTS

73,338 students on FTC

74,676 students on FES-EO

212 students with transportation scholarships

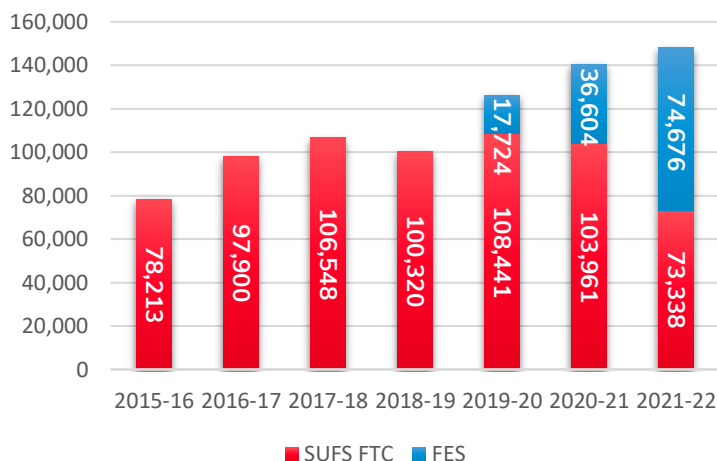
Average household income of around \$36,000 for a family of four

68 percent black or Hispanic

About half of all students live in single-parent households

1,934 participating private schools

Step Up For Students Income-Based Scholarships



TESTING ACCOUNTABILITY

- ✓ Students in grades 3-10 have been evaluated with state-approved national norm-referenced tests since 2006.
- ✓ Studies show the average scholarship student is among the lowest performers in their prior school. Once on scholarship, students see similar learning gains to all students nationally, regardless of income, and are more likely to attend and graduate

THE SCHOLARSHIP AND ITS FINANCIAL IMPACT

For the **2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR**, the **SCHOLARSHIP** will average between \$6,900 and \$7,500. Renewal students are grandfathered into the old formula; \$6,519 for grades K-5, \$6,815 for 6-8 and \$7,111 for 9-12, but will receive the higher of the two amounts.

Reports from the state Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, Florida Revenue Estimating Conference and Florida TaxWatch **ALL SHOW THE FLORIDA TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP SAVES THE STATE MONEY.**