

Hope Scholarship

July 2023



Florida became the first state to offer a scholarship for victims of assault, sexual assault, sexual harassment and other forms of bullying. Students must report the bullying or harassment to their public school. The school will inform families of their eligibility after 15 days. Students may enroll in a new public school, receive a \$750 scholarship to pay for transportation costs to attend an out-of-district public school or receive a scholarship to attend a private school.

FAST FACTS

889 funded students in 2022-23

249 funded students in 2021-22

452 students enrolled in 2020-21

Top 10 Counties, 2021-22

Orange
Broward
Volusia
Pinellas
Polk
Sarasota
Hillsborough
Palm Beach
Seminole
Marion

66
54
51
50
40
36
34
31
28
23

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- Any K-12 student at a public school who was a victim of a qualifying incident at a school, school-related or sponsored program, on a bus or at a bus stop.
- Qualifying incidents include battery, harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, physical attack, robbery, sexual offenses, threats or intimidation and fighting.
- Students, parents or guardians must report the incident to the school authorities.
- Within 15 days of reporting the incident the school principal or designee must provide the parent or guardian a Hope Scholarship Notification Form (Form IEPC-HS1). This form can be used to receive a private school scholarship, a \$750 transportation scholarship to attend an out-of-district public school, or to transfer to another public school within the district that has room available.

For More information visit Step Up For Students at: <https://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/hope/how-the-scholarship-works/>

Schools are required to provide the Hope Notification Form. This form can be found on the Florida Department of Education site here: <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/hope/>