



A Learning Option for Students with Unique Abilities

2024-25 STEP UP FAST FACTS

122,051 funded students with unique abilities
Average scholarship worth \$10,000
More than 20,000 education providers, vendors, tutors, therapists, and more
2,076 participating private schools
Nine public school districts or charter schools partners, plus Florida Virtual School

2023-24 ESA Spending Top Categories

Tuition & Fees Pvt School	\$521,665,174.46
Curriculum/Instructional	\$151,151,914.18
Part-Time Tuition & Fees	\$32,485,268.07
VPK & School Readiness	\$15,483,168.59
Speech Language Therapist	\$13,706,826.13
Postsecondary Savings	\$12,549,764.39
ABA Therapist Services	\$8,846,893.40
OT Therapist Services	\$6,970,875.57
Other Therapist Services	\$5,941,963.52

Total Spending: \$789,122,967.25

The Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA) program allows parents to personalize the education of their special-needs children by directing money toward a combination of programs and approved providers. The FES-UA 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.

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS INCLUDE:

Florida students 3 years old through 12th grade, or age 22, with one of the following diagnoses:
Autism Spectrum Disorder
Muscular Dystrophy
Cerebral Palsy
Down Syndrome
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome
Prader-Willi Syndrome
Spina Bifida
Williams Syndrome
Deaf, visually impaired, or dual sensory impaired
Hospital homebound, brain injury and more

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

