



Florida's Private School Education Savings Accounts



The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC), launched in 2002 with just 15,585 students, and the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO), introduced in 2019 with 17,284 students, have grown substantially over time. Today, these education savings account programs help more than 310,000 students afford private school tuition.

More than 100,000 of these students qualify for the federal Free or Reduced-Price Lunch Program, a common indicator of families living in poverty. Eligible students receive access to an education savings account that can be used for tuition, testing fees, textbooks, curriculum, digital materials, and tutoring. Students may also choose to use a transportation scholarship to attend a public school instead.

2025-26 STEP UP FAST FACTS

310,777 students funded on FES-EO and FTC

42% White, 36% Hispanic, 19% Black, 3% Asian.

More than 100,000 students qualify for Free or Reduced Priced Lunches

39 percent of students live in single-parent households

2,398 participating private schools

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 are 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 from college.

For the **2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR**, the **SCHOLARSHIP** values vary by grade and county, but average between \$7,700 and \$8,500. Renewal students are grandfathered into the old formula, but will receive the higher of the two amounts.