Help is Here!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FLORIDA SCHOOLCHILDREN
How do you think educational choice (school choice) may impact the life of a child?
Help is Here!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FLORIDA SCHOOLCHILDREN

Florida Tax Credit and Family Empowerment

Step Up for Students
How can you as Financial Capability practitioners work together to break generational poverty?
Household income for the family must be at or below the income criteria found in the chart.

### Income-Based Scholarship Guidelines

**2020-2021 School Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th><strong>Priority Funding</strong> Annual Maximum Gross Income Cap</th>
<th><strong>Florida Tax Credit Scholarship</strong> Annual Maximum Gross Income Cap</th>
<th><strong>Family Empowerment Scholarship</strong> Annual Maximum Gross Income Cap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$23,606</td>
<td>$33,176</td>
<td>$38,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$31,894</td>
<td>$44,824</td>
<td>$51,720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$40,182</td>
<td>$56,472</td>
<td>$65,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$48,470</td>
<td>$68,120</td>
<td>$78,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$56,758</td>
<td>$79,768</td>
<td>$92,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$65,046</td>
<td>$91,416</td>
<td>$105,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$73,334</td>
<td>$103,064</td>
<td>$118,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$81,622</td>
<td>$114,712</td>
<td>$132,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>$89,910</td>
<td>$126,360</td>
<td>$145,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$98,198</td>
<td>$138,008</td>
<td>$159,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>$106,486</td>
<td>$149,656</td>
<td>$172,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>$114,774</td>
<td>$161,304</td>
<td>$186,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>$123,062</td>
<td>$172,952</td>
<td>$199,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each additional member + $2,888
Each additional member + $11,648
Each additional member + $13,440

Students must have a birth date of NO LATER THAN September 1, 2015 (K5) or 2014 (1st) to be eligible.

* For the Family Empowerment Scholarship, the student must be entering kindergarten OR have attended a Florida public school for the 2019-20 school year to qualify.

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship and Family Empowerment Eligibility Criteria

• There is no income threshold for a child who is in foster care, out-of-home care or homeless.

• A student may also qualify if:
  • A member of the household receives SNAP (food stamps), TANF, or FDPIR.
  • The household income qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch.
How The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Works

Private school option

• 2020-21 income guidelines

• The following school expenses are covered, in this order until maximum award amount is reached, or until all fees are satisfied, whichever is first:
  1) Tuition; 2) Books*; 3) Registration; 4) Transportation; 5) Uniforms*; 6) Testing; 7) Others.
  *Applicable for books and uniforms sold by the school, not a third-party vendor.
How The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Works

Do you know of a child whose family wants them to stay in public school but not the public school they are assigned to?

Transportation option

The 2020-21 scholarship award amount has not yet been determined. However, for the 2019-20 school year, families may have received $750 to assist with transportation costs for their student to attend a public school other than the one the student is assigned to attend.
The Family Empowerment Scholarship can only be used toward private school tuition and fees.

The scholarship will pay for the following school expenses, in this order until maximum award amount is reached, or until all fees are satisfied, whichever is first:

- 1) Tuition; 2) Books*; 3) Registration; 4) Transportation; 5) Uniforms*; 6) Testing; 7) Other.

- (*Applicable for books and uniforms sold by the school, not a third-party vendor.)
### Florida Tax Credit and Family Empowerment Scholarship Application Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Florida Tax Credit</th>
<th>Family Empowerment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New and renewal families may APPLY NOW for an Income-Based Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year. (Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis in the order all documents are received, and funding is limited.)</td>
<td>New families may APPLY NOW for an Income-Based Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year. (Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis in the order all documents are received, and funding is limited.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As of July 1, 2020 the scholarship is once-in, always-in, meaning once a student uses the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship, they are automatically eligible for the scholarship in future years.</td>
<td>Families with the higher income ranges of $78,000 and higher have additional eligibility requirements. The student must be eligible to enroll in kindergarten or has spent the prior school year in attendance at a Florida public school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The scholarship is once-in, always-in, meaning once a student uses the Family Empowerment Scholarship, they are automatically eligible for the scholarship in future years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For students already using the income-based Family Empowerment Scholarship, please do not complete a Step Up For Students application. Please refer to the email sent to you in January 2020 by the Florida Department of Education explaining what needs to be done for your student for the 2020-21 school year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Families are not a one size fits all. You serve families from low and moderate income households. Something to keep in mind: these families may also have a child with certain special needs.
DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS UNIQUE ABILITIES?
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Gardiner Scholarship Program
# Gardiner Scholarship Program

## Eligibility Criteria

Florida students 3 years old through 12th grade with one of the following diagnoses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Deaf</th>
<th>Traumatic brain injured</th>
<th>Cerebral Palsy</th>
<th>Muscular Dystrophy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual disability - severe cognitive impairment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“High-risk” 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds</td>
<td>Spina bifida</td>
<td>Down Syndrome</td>
<td>Phelan-McDermid syndrome</td>
<td>Williams syndrome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaphylaxis</td>
<td>Dual sensory impaired</td>
<td>Prader-Willi syndrome</td>
<td>Visually impaired</td>
<td>Autism spectrum disorder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital or Homebound</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rare disease or condition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gardiner Scholarship Program
Eligibility Criteria

Student document requirements either/or:
- Formal diagnosis from a licensed physician or psychologist
- Current Individual Education Plan from a school district

Student age requirements:
- AGE ELIGIBILITY on or before Sept. 1
  - 3 OR 4
  - 5
- Until student graduates high school, turns 22, or returns to public school.
The scholarship amount varies according to grade, county and disability, but the award amounts for the 2020-21 school year are still being determined. However, the average amount for most students in the 2019-2020 school year is 10,400.

Money in the account can roll over from one year to the next as long as the student remains in the program.

If an account is inactive for three consecutive fiscal years, the account must be closed, and any remaining funds revert to the state.
How The Gardiner Scholarship Works

- Participating Private Schools or Home Education
- Therapists & Specialists
- Curriculum
- Technology
- College Savings Account or Approved Post-Secondary Institution
Gardiner Scholarship Provider Handbook
Gardiner Scholarship Program Application Process

Renewal and New Families:
Renewal and new families may APPLY NOW for the Gardiner Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year.
How do you think being bullied affects the well being of a child?
Help is Here!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FLORIDA SCHOOLCHILDREN

Hope Scholarship
# Hope Scholarship Eligibility Criteria

## K-12 Students

**Victim of one of the following:**

- Bullying
- Physical Attack
- Threat or Intimidation
- Sexual Offenses
- Hazing
- Fighting
- Kidnapping
- Robbery
- Assault or Battery
- Harassment

**Taken place at one of the following:**

- Public K-12 Educational Institution
- Any school-related or school sponsored program or activity
- Riding on the school bus
- Waiting at the school bus stop
How The Hope Scholarship Works

- **Private school option**
  - The **following school expenses are covered**, in this order until maximum award amount is reached, or until all fees are satisfied, whichever is first:
    1) Tuition; 2) Books*; 3) Registration; 4) Transportation; 5) Uniforms*; 6) Testing; 7) Others.
    *Applicable for books and uniforms sold by the school, not a third-party vendor.

- **Transportation option**
  The 2020-21 scholarship award amount has not yet been determined. However, for the 2019-20 school year, families may have received $750 to assist with transportation costs for their student to attend a public school other than the one the student is assigned to attend.
How the Hope Scholarship is Funded

• If you purchase your vehicle from a dealership or outside of a dealership, let them know that you would like to support the Hope Scholarship, and they will take care of the rest.

• You can select to designate up to $105 of the vehicle’s sales tax to Step Up For Students to support the Hope Scholarship.
Hope Scholarship Application Process

New and Renewal Families:
May apply for the Hope Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year.

Parents can go here: https://hope.sufs.org/s3/Hope-Scholarship-Application

To apply, parents would need the following:
Hope Scholarship Notification Form (Form IEPC-HS1) that the parents receive from the public school’s principal or his/her designee that notates the student’s eligibility for the Hope Scholarship.
How do you think not being able to read affects the confidence of a child?
Help is Here!

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FLORIDA SCHOOLCHILDREN

Reading Scholarship Accounts
How the Reading Scholarship Works

• The scholarships, **worth $500 each**, can be used for reimbursement for the following:

  • **Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring** provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator’s certificate, a baccalaureate or graduate degree in the subject, an adjunct teaching certificate, or has demonstrated mastery of the subject area knowledge.

  • **Fees for summer and after-school education programs** designed to improve reading or literacy skills.

  • **Instructional materials and curriculum** related to reading or literacy.
Reading Scholarship Application Process

**Renewal and New Families:**
We are no longer accepting applications for the Reading Scholarship for the 2019-20 school year.

**2020-21 School Year:**
We anticipate that we will begin accepting applications for the Reading Scholarship for the 2020-21 school year in late summer. Note: We are working with the Department of Education on how eligibility will be determined for the 2020-21 school year since the Florida Standards Assessment was not administered this school year.

Parents can go here: [www.stepupforstudents.org/reading](http://www.stepupforstudents.org/reading)
How can we as organizations work together to help the families we serve?
Questions/Contacts

For application process and questions:

www.StepUpForStudents.org

Scholarship hotline: 877-735-7837

For marketing questions or materials regarding any of the Scholarship Programs:

Melissa Jaramillo mjaramillo@sufs.org
904-595-6814

Stephanie Love slove@sufs.org
904-352-2250