

Florida Tax Credit Scholarship



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OFFICE OF POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A LEARNING OPTION FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

How does it work? Companies receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for contributions to non-profit scholarship organizations like Step Up For Students. Eligible students may choose between financial assistance toward private school tuition or with transportation costs to attend a public school in another district. Step Up awarded 100,030 scholarships, averaging \$6,775 to \$7,250, to economically disadvantaged K-12 students in 2019-20.

2019-20 FAST FACTS

100,030 scholarship students*

Average household income of \$26,505 or about 10.2 percent above the poverty level

68 percent black or Hispanic

53 percent in single-parent households

1,784 participating private schools

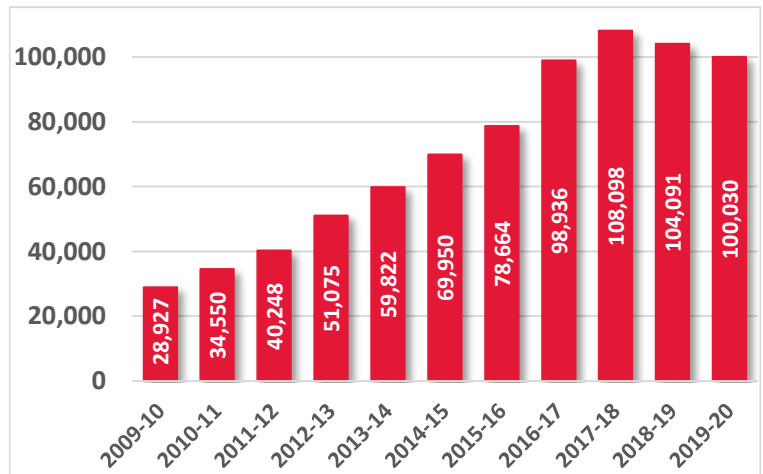
*Official Q1 enrollment from DOE. Step Up only.



THE SCHOLARSHIP AND ITS FINANCIAL IMPACT

For the 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR, the **SCHOLARSHIP** will average between \$6,775 and \$7,250. 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.

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP ENROLLMENT – ALL SFOs



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 from college.

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

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