

# Reading Scholarship Accounts



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OFFICE OF POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## THE READING ESA: A LEARNING OPTION FOR STRUGGLING STUDENTS

Florida became the first state to offer an education savings account (ESA) program for students enrolled in public schools. The program offers parents of public school students in third- through fifth-grade access to education savings accounts, worth \$500 each, to pay for tuition and fees related to part-time tutoring, summer and after-school literacy programs, instructional materials and curriculum related to reading or literacy. The program served 5,375 in its inaugural year.

### 2019-20 FAST FACTS

**4,530 students funded**

**\$500 scholarship amount**

**Students in 51 counties participate**

### ELIGIBLE EXPENSES INCLUDE:

- ✓ Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring
- ✓ Fees for summer education programs to improve reading or literacy
- ✓ Instructional materials and curriculum related to reading or literacy
- ✓ Fees for after-school education programs designed to improve reading or literacy

### Top 10 Counties

Orange	192
Broward	186
Hillsborough	119
Palm Beach	114
Miami-Dade	114
Lee	83
Clay	81
Polk	62
Pasco	60
Brevard	48

### Eligibility

- Students must be in the third- through fifth-grade
- Must have scored a 1 or 2 on the Third or Fourth grade English Language Arts section of the Florida Standards Assessment in the prior year
- Students classified as English Language Learners receive priority
- Must remain enrolled in a public school



Contact: Ron Matus, (C) 727-580-1577 or [rmatus@sufs.org](mailto:rmatus@sufs.org)  
Patrick Gibbons, (C) 813-528-3435 or [pgibbons@sufs.org](mailto:pgibbons@sufs.org)  
[WWW.STEPUPFORSTUDENTS.ORG](http://WWW.STEPUPFORSTUDENTS.ORG)