

Hope Scholarship



MAY 2021

OFFICE OF POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

THE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

Florida became the first state to offer a scholarship for victims of assault, sexual assault, sexual harassment and other forms of bullying. Students must report the bullying or harassment to their public school. The school will inform families of their eligibility after 15 days. Students may enroll in a new public school, receive a \$750 scholarship to pay for transportation costs to attend an out-of-district public school or receive a scholarship to attend a private school.

FAST FACTS

436 students enrolled in 2019-20

452 students enrolled in 2020-21

Top 10 Counties, Students Enrolled

Orange	37
Pinellas	35
Broward	26
Hillsborough	24
Seminole	23
Polk	22
Marion	22
Volusia	20
Palm Beach	20
Lake	17

Eligibility

- Any K-12 student at a public school who was a victim of a qualifying incident at a school, school-related or sponsored program, on a bus or at a bus stop.
- Qualifying incidents include battery, harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, physical attack, robbery, sexual offenses, threats or intimidation and fighting.
- Students, parents or guardians must report the incident to the school authorities.
- Within 15 days of reporting the incident the school principal or designee must provide the parent or guardian a Hope Scholarship Notification Form (Form IEPC-HS1). This form can be used to receive a private school scholarship, a \$750 transportation scholarship to attend an out-of-district public school, or to transfer to another public school within the district that has room available.

For More information visit Step Up For Students at: <https://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/hope/how-the-scholarship-works/>

Schools are required to provide the Hope Notification Form. This form can be found on the Florida Department of Education site here: <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/k-12-scholarship-programs/hope/>

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