

Reading Scholarship Accounts



MAY 2021

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.

2020-21 FAST FACTS

6,285 students funded in 2019-20

2,757 students funded so far in 2020-21

\$500 scholarship amount

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 in 2020-21

Broward	590
Palm Beach	497
Pinellas	449
Marion	384
Volusia	364
Orange	354
Brevard	350
Hillsborough	337
Dade	318
Duval	302

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
Patrick Gibbons, (C) 813-528-3435 or pgibbons@sufs.org
WWW.STEPUFORSTUDENTS.ORG