

FLORIDA SCHOOL CHOICE OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT EDUCATION & PARENTAL CHOICE

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Family Empowerment Scholarship (FES) Program was established during the 2019 Legislative Session to enhance Florida's menu of education options. It will provide children whose families have limited financial resources with the opportunity to attend the school that best meets their needs and enables them to reach their academic goals.

The FES provides eligible students a scholarship to attend a private school selected by the parent. A student is eligible for the FES if the student meets the following criteria:

- The student's household income does not exceed 300% of the federal poverty level (\$78,600 for a family of four) or the students on the direct certification list (list of children who qualify for the food assistance program, the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program, or the Food Distribution on Indian Reservations program); or
- The student is currently placed, or during the previous state fiscal year was placed, in foster care or in out-of-home care as defined in section 39.01, Florida Statutes;

and

- The student is eligible to enroll in kindergarten <u>or</u> has spent the prior school year (2019-20) in attendance at a Florida public school. Prior attendance means the student was enrolled in and in attendance at a Florida public school during both the October and February student counts; and
- Prior to scholarship funds being awarded, the student must be accepted and enrolled in a participating private school. For a list of eligible schools, please view the Department's Private School Directory. A private school that is currently eligible to participate in any of the scholarship programs is eligible to participate in the FES; however, parents should contact the school to inquire as to whether the private school will participate in the program.

Parents who meet the eligibility requirements above and are interested in applying for the FES should first contact one of Florida's two approved scholarship funding organizations (contact information below) to complete the income verification process. Students who have already applied for the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship program may be determined to meet the income eligibility without resubmitting household income documentation to the Scholarship Funding Organization.

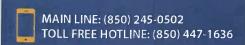
For more information, please visit the Department of Education website at www.Fldoe.org/FES.

Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFOs)

AAA Scholarship Foundation http://www.aaascholarships.org/ 888-707-2465 info@aaascholarships.org

Step Up for Students
https://www.stepupforstudents.org/
877-735-7837
info@stepupforstudents.org









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El Programa de La Beca de Empoderamiento Familiar (<u>The Family Empowerment Scholarship Program</u> – FES) se establecio durante la Sesion Legislativa 2019 para mejorar el menu de opciones educativas de Florida. Brindara a los ninos de familias que tienen recursos financieros limitados la optunidad de asistir a la escuela que major satisfaga sus necesidades y les permita alcanzar sus metas academicas.

El FES proporciona a los estudiantes elegibles una beca para asistir a una escuela privada seleccionada por los padres. Un estudiante es elegible para el FES si cumple con los siguientes criterios:

- El ingreso familiar del estudiante no puede exceeder el 300% del nivel federal de pobreza (\$78,600 para una familia de cuatro) o los estudiantes en la lista de certificacion directa (lista de ninos que califican para el programa de asistencia alimentaria, la Asistencia Temporal para Familias Necesitadas, o el programa de Distribucion de Alimentos en Reservas Indias); o
- El estudiante esta actualmente ubicado, o durante el ano fiscal estatal anterior, en hogares de guarda o fuera del hogar, segun se define en la seccion 39.01. Estatutos de la Florida;

Y

- El estudiante es elegible para inscribirse en el Kindergarten o ha pasado el ano escolar anterior (2019-20) asistiendo a una escuela publica de la Florida. Asistencia previa significa que el estudiante se inscribio y asistio a una escuela publica de la Florida durante los recuentos de estudiantes de Octubre y Febrero; y
- Antes de que se otorguen los fondos de la beca, el estudiante debe ser aceptado e inscrito en una escuela privada participante. Para obtener una lista de las escuelas elegibles, consulte el Directorio de Escuelas Privadas del Departamento. Una escuela privada que actualmente es elegible para participar en cualquiera de los programas de becas es elegible para participar en el FES; sin embargo, los pardres deben comunicarse con la escuela para preguntar si la escuela privada participara en el programa.

Los padres que cumplen con los requisites de elegibilidad anteriores y estan interesados en solicitar el FES deben comunicarse primero con una de las dos organizaciones de financiacion de becas aprobadas de Florida (informacion de contacto a continuacion) para completer el proceso de verificacion de ingresos. Se puede determinar que los estudiantes que ya han solicitado el Programa de Becas de Credito Fiscal de Florida (FTC) cumplen con los requisites de ingresos sin volver a presentar la documentacion de ingresos del hogar a la Organizacion de Financiacion de Becas.

Para obtener mas informacion, visite el sitio web del Departamento de Educacion en www.Fldoe.org/FES.

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