Diocese of Palm Beach

Office of Catholic Schools- School Choice Scholarship Information

**Attention all families enrolled in Diocese of Palm Beach schools:**

Gov. Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 1 on March 27, 2023 expanding school choice options in Florida, with the changes will take effect on July 1, 2023. There are two types of scholarships available, the 1) Florida Tax Credit Scholarship/Family Empowerment Scholarship and the 2) Florida Empowerment Scholarship for Unique Abilities.

1. The Florida Tax Credit Scholarship (FTC) and Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FES-EO) expands eligibility for all K-12 students, regardless of household income. While eligibility has been expanded, the bill does give priority for funding to lower income families.
   1. The scholarship (estimated to be approximately $7,800) will first pay for tuition and fees and any remaining funds can be accessed through an education savings account (ESA) to pay for other approved educational expenses.
   2. Families can register for the interest list now at [go.stepupforstudents.org/ftc-fes-eo-interest-2024-](https://go.stepupforstudents.org/ftc-fes-eo-interest-2024-2025?_gl=1*1eb9jp5*_ga*OTk3MjQ2MTQuMTcwNDcyMjA4Mg..*_ga_V4KBYBT1HD*MTcwNjI4MTI5MC40LjEuMTcwNjI4NjQ1MS42MC4wLjA.)2025 and once the applications are open, you will be notified.
2. **The Family Empowerment Scholarship for Unique Abilities (FES-UA) is for s**tudents from age three through grade 12 who have a specific diagnosis ([click here](https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/unique-abilities/) for the full list of eligible diagnoses).
   1. The scholarship (approximately $10,8000) will first pay for tuition and fees and any remaining funds can be accessed through an education savings account (ESA) to pay for other approved educational expenses.
   2. Families can register for the interest list now at [go.stepupforstudents.org/fes-ua-interest-2024-2025](https://go.stepupforstudents.org/fes-ua-interest-2024-2025?_gl=1*13m0g7z*_ga*OTk3MjQ2MTQuMTcwNDcyMjA4Mg..*_ga_V4KBYBT1HD*MTcwNjI4MTI5MC40LjEuMTcwNjI4NjcyNy4zLjAuMA..)  and once the applications are open, you will be notified.