



## **Family Empowerment Scholarship FAQ**

### **What is it?**

The Family Empowerment Scholarship is designed to help low income families attend an eligible private school of choice and reduce the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship waitlist.

### **How many students can participate?**

The legislation establishes the scholarship for up to 18,000 students annually on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, the number of students participating in the scholarship program may annually increase by 0.25 percent of the state's total public school student enrollment.

### **Who qualifies?**

The scholarship is available to Florida students who:

1. live in households with annual earnings of up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level, with priority given to students whose household income level does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty level, and
2. have been enrolled in a public school in the prior school year, or
3. are eligible to enroll in kindergarten

### **What is the value of a scholarship?**

The scholarship is funded through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) at 95 percent of the district average cost per student.

### **Who administers the scholarship?**

The Florida Department of Education administers the scholarship. Here is a link to their website: <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice>

### **How do I apply?**

You may begin the application process [online](#) or on paper ([English](#)) ([Espanol](#)). If you are determined to be income-eligible, the Florida Department of Education will notify you of next steps.