

# Financial Aid Quick FAQ's

Types of Financial Assistance	How the award process works
Step Up for Students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parents are responsible for the total tuition amount to the school.</li> <li>2. The family must provide the school with a screenshot of the award ID and amount for each awarded student. Please email FA@thediscoveryschool.org.</li> <li>3. As the school receives the quarterly payments from Step-up for Students, the school will apply a credit to your Tuition Management account. Any credit balance on your account will be refunded to the family via check. Please ensure you have provided the school with your most up-to-date mailing address.</li> </ol>
Financial Aid through Blackbaud Financial Aid Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All families must first apply for the Step Up for Students scholarships.</li> <li>2. Provide the school with a proof of scholarship application.</li> <li>3. Include evidence that you have applied for a Step Up scholarship in your Blackbaud Financial Aid Management application documents under "Other".</li> </ol>
Scholarships through The Discovery School: SEVA, Wynne, Evans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All families must first apply for Financial Aid.</li> <li>2. Provide any documentation pertinent to the designated scholarship.</li> <li>3. Complete the form online for the scholarship.</li> <li>4. Notifications will come via email if you have been awarded the scholarship funds.</li> </ol>

FAQ:

## Tuition Remission Policy

For students in K-8, the first step your family must take is to apply for the Step Up For Students Education Options scholarship award.

<https://www.rpds.com/admissions/tuition-fees/new-page1>

## Financial Aid Appeal

The Financial Aid Committee thoughtfully and diligently reviews each family's application. However, if extraordinary circumstances make it such that a family chooses to appeal their financial aid award, then they must submit a request in writing to the Financial Aid Committee, which provides additional information about circumstances that might impact the calculation of their need. Even if there is a demonstration of further need through an appeal, there is no guarantee that additional funding will be available after initial award decisions are made.

- Continued eligibility for Financial Assistance is based primarily on a family's ongoing demonstrated need for funds. Families must re-apply for Financial Assistance each year.
- In order for The Discovery School Financial Assistance applications to be considered, families applying for The Discovery School Financial Assistance with children entering Kindergarten through Eighth Grade must apply for a Florida School Choice Scholarship through Step Up for Students.
- If a Florida School Choice Scholarship is awarded, those funds will be considered in the overall financial picture for families and should be disclosed to Discovery immediately. Discovery reserves the right to redistribute funds into our Discovery Financial Assistance program and utilize it for other students in need. Please note that no additional award will be made if you have already been awarded financial assistance and receive a Step Up award later. Discovery will reduce your financial assistance award by the amount of your Step Up award.
- Families are expected to contribute toward the cost of a Discovery School education.

*\* Notice to parents enrolling students under the FES-UA scholarship: Please note that Discovery accommodates students with disabilities in accordance with the requirements under federal and local law. However, your child may not necessarily receive the types of accommodations or related services that your child may be entitled to receive at a public school, as public schools have different obligations under the Individuals With Disabilities Act (IDEA). The IDEA does not apply to private schools. We are happy to discuss the accommodations your child may need and be entitled to at our school.*

*The Discovery School accepts Florida School Choice Scholarships through Step Up for Students, a state-approved, nonprofit scholarship-funding organization that empowers families to pursue and engage in the most appropriate learning options for their children. For more information and how to apply, please visit [StepUpForStudents.org](http://StepUpForStudents.org).*

*Below are the scholarships Discovery welcomes*

### *Florida Tax Credit Scholarship & Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options (FTC & FES-EO)*

- *Available to Florida residents, regardless of household income, who are eligible to attend a K-12 public school.*
- *The scholarship will first pay for the cost of private school tuition and related fees or public school transportation.*
- *\$7,800 average amount awarded for private school scholarships for the 2023-24 school year*

### *Family Empowerment Scholarships for Unique Abilities (FES-UA; formerly Gardiner)*

- *Available to students age 3 through grade 12 or age 22, whichever comes first, who have a specific diagnosis.*
- *This scholarship is delivered as an education savings account (ESA) that parents can direct toward a combination of programs and approved providers.*
- *\$9,000 average award for an FES-UA scholarship.*
- *Funds may be used for tuition and fees for a private school (Kindergarten-8th grade only at Discovery), homeschooling options, therapies, tutoring and more.*

*Notice to parents enrolling students under the FES-UA scholarship: Please note that our school accommodates students with disabilities in accordance with the requirements under federal and local law. However, your child may not necessarily receive the types of accommodations or related services that your child may be entitled to receive at a public school, as public schools have different obligations under the IDEA. The IDEA does not apply to private schools. We are happy to have a conversation with you about the accommodations that your child may need and be entitled to at our school.*

*Please note that Step Up for Students funding is contingent upon State availability and legislation. Should the State modify the Step Up for Students program, Discovery is not responsible for making up the difference in educational costs. Families are welcome to apply for need-based financial assistance directly through the School.*