

Step-Up for Students FAQ (2026-2027)

What is Step-Up for Students?

Step-Up is a **state-approved nonprofit scholarship funding organization**.

- Provides scholarships averaging **\$8,000 per student annually** for private school tuition.
- Available to **all Florida K–12 students**.

 [Learn more and apply here.](#)

What scholarships are available?

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

- Available to all Florida residents eligible for public K–12.
- Pays toward **private school tuition** first.
- Average award: **\$8,000**.

 [Click here to learn more.](#)

Family Empowerment Scholarship for Students with Unique Abilities (FES-UA)

- Available to students **ages 3–12th grade** (or up to age 22) with a qualifying diagnosis.
- Average award: **\$10,000**.

 [Click here to learn more.](#)

How often do I apply?

- Families must **re-enroll each year** and update JCS with the new award information.
- Step-Up re-enrollment for the **2026-2027 school year opens February 1, 2026**.
- Please plan to apply the **first week it opens**.

Where do I apply?

- [Apply or re-apply here.](#)
- For questions, contact Step-Up directly. For the **fastest response**, use the **chat feature** on their website.

Can I use the AAA Scholarship instead?

- JCS will **no longer accept AAA Scholarships**.
- All families must apply through **Step-Up for Students**.

What do I do once I'm awarded?

Step-Up does **not** notify JCS. Once awarded, email studentbilling@jupiterchristian.org with:

- Student's name & grade (26/27)
- Step-Up Award # (26/27)
- Step-Up Student ID #
- County of residence
- Award amount
- Award type (**FES-EO, FES-UA, or FTC**)

⚠ Note: **FES-EO and FTC are different awards** – please check carefully.

📌 Award amounts change annually in the summer. JCS will receive updated info directly from Step-Up. No action is needed from families.

Where do I find my award information?

1. Log into your [EMA \(Emma\)](#) account.
2. Your award information will be on your dashboard.
3. You may take a screenshot and email it to studentbilling@jupiterchristian.org once awarded.

✅ Please verify that it shows **26/27 award information** before sending.

How is billing set up once awarded?

- A **Step-Up credit** will be applied to your monthly billing (June–May).
- The amount invoiced is what you owe each month **after Step-Up is applied**.
- The full award is placed in your June billing, and Step-Up pays JCS **quarterly**.
- ⚠ Note: **Fourth quarter payments typically arrive in May or June.**

What is an Enrollment Form?

- JCS issues an Enrollment Form through Step-Up once we receive your award information.
- Step-Up will then notify you to approve in your EMA portal.
- **Please approve immediately** – JCS cannot receive funds until you approve.

Do I need to notify JCS each quarter when my student is funded?

No. Step-Up notifies JCS each quarter when your student is ready to be invoiced.

- You will need to approve payments in EMA each quarter after Step-Up creates an invoice.
- Please **approve immediately** to ensure timely payments to JCS.

Who do I contact with questions?

- **Billing Questions:**
 - Melissa Schindler – mschindler@jupiterchristian.org
- **Step-Up Enrollment or Account Questions:**
 - Contact Step-Up directly via their **website chat line** (fastest response).

Step-Up Resources:

[Step-Up for Students Website](#)

[Step-Up Webinars](#)

[Step-Up 25/26 Handbook](#)

[Step-Up YouTube](#)