



**Superintendent of Schools**  
Alberto M. Carvalho

**Miami-Dade County School Board**

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February 3, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Reading Scholarship Account created to help public school students in grades 3-5 who struggle with reading. In 2018, Florida started offering an education savings account program for students enrolled in public schools. The program offers parents access to education savings accounts, worth \$500 each, to pay for tuition and fees related to part-time tutoring, summer and after-school literacy programs, and instructional materials and curriculum related to reading or literacy.

### **How can I use the Reading Scholarship Account?**

The scholarships are worth \$500 each and can be used for reimbursement for the following:

- Tuition and fees for part-time tutoring provided by a person who holds a valid Florida educator's certificate, a baccalaureate or graduate degree in the subject, an adjunct teaching certificate, or has demonstrated subject-area mastery.
- Fees for summer educational programs designed to improve reading or literacy skills.
- Fees for after-school educational programs designed to improve reading or literacy skills.
- Instructional materials and curriculum related to reading or literacy.

### **Who is eligible?**

- Public school students currently enrolled in a Florida public school in third, fourth or fifth grade for the 2020-21 school year.
- Students who scored a performance level 1 or 2 on the English Language Arts (ELA) test in the 2018-19 school year.
- Students enrolled in one of Florida's 300 Lowest Performing Elementary Schools in 2018-19.
- Students enrolled in one of Florida's elementary schools that earned a D or F school grade in 2018-19.
- Students identified in the 2019-20 school year as having substantial deficiency in reading based on their most recent available screening and progress monitoring assessment.

## How do I apply?

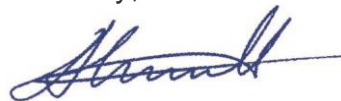
You are receiving this letter because your child is eligible for the Reading Scholarship Account. To apply for the Reading Scholarship Accounts for the 2020-2021 school year, please visit: <https://www.stepupforstudents.org/for-parents/reading-scholarship/how-the-scholarship-works/>.

To complete the Reading Scholarship application, you will need either the [Reading Scholarship Accounts Program Eligibility Notification Form](#) or the Spring 2019 Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) report. Parents and students may access 2019 FSA results through the parent or student portal.

If you have any questions regarding the Reading Scholarship Accounts application, please contact Step Up for Students at 1-877-735-7837 or email at [reading@sufs.org](mailto:reading@sufs.org).

We encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for your child to improve his/her reading and literacy skills and to receive the supports and interventions they need to overcome the challenges of this historic school year.

Sincerely,



Alberto M. Carvalho  
Superintendent of Schools

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