



## OUR CAUSE



Step Up For Students was created to help alleviate the enormous educational challenges faced by children who live in poverty. Step Up For Students provides Kindergarten through 12th grade Florida Tax Credit Scholarships to students from low-income families in Florida. The scholarships allow these students to consider a private school learning environment or an out-of-district public school that may better suit their individual needs, an option which already is available to families of greater financial means.

This choice is not based on whether the public school is judged as succeeding or failing. Rather, it recognizes that different children learn in different ways and that our collective struggle is to help the students who often are at the greatest disadvantage in modern education.

The statistics in Florida tell a painful story, where only 43 percent of African-American males graduate from high school and only 52 percent of poor children read at grade level. The mission of Step Up For Students is to be a partner in the larger solution.