



House Bill 1 greatly expands access for K-12 students to receive a \$7,500 scholarship to either go to a private school or participate in the newly created Personalized Education Program or “PEP.” This is the largest expansion of “the money following the child” in the state’s history. We at the Florida Citizens Alliance worked hard to influence the process of the creation of this bill. We strongly supported the bill however we worked hard to protect the independence of the homeschool community throughout the process.

Below are the key points of the bill:

- Creates Education Savings Accounts using the current scholarship programs of the Tax Credit scholarship and the Florida Family Empowerment Scholarship.
- Priority will still be given to students whose family is below 185 percent of the federal poverty level. Priority will then be given to students whose family household income level does not exceed 400 percent of the federal poverty level.
- Creates the Personalized Education Program or “PEP.”
 - This program replaces the homeschool status for those parents who participate in the ESA.
 - Students who participate in the PEP program will need to take a national norm test approved by the Florida Department of Education.
- 2023-2024 school year only 20,000 scholarships for students can be PEP. The number of scholarships funded for such students may increase by 40,000 in each subsequent school year. By July 1, 2027, any student can participate in the PEP.

- Students who go to a private school using the money will need to take a nationally normed test approved by the Florida Department of Education.
- Expands the number of scholarships for students with unique abilities from 1% to 3% of total enrolled students in Florida.
- Waives the general knowledge requirement for a teacher who has been in the classroom for 3 years and has been rated effective or highly effective for each of the last 3 years.
- Expands the temporary teaching certificate from 3 to 5 years.
- Allows school districts to use other types of vehicles to transport students to and from school.