

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Action Item**

January 16, 2019

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**SUBJECT:** Approval of Step Up For Students, Inc. as a Scholarship Funding Organization for 2019-2020

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

Approve the renewal of Step Up For Students, Inc. as an eligible Scholarship Funding Organization (SFO) for purposes of administering the Florida Tax Credit (FTC) Scholarship Program, the Gardiner Scholarship Program, the Hope Scholarship Program and the Reading Scholarship Program for 2019-20.

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1002.395(15), Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In order to participate in the FTC, Gardiner, Hope or Reading Scholarship Programs, a charitable organization that seeks to be a nonprofit SFO must submit an application for initial approval or renewal to the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice no later than September 1 of each year before the school year for which the organizations intends to offer scholarships. In consultation with the Department of Revenue and the Chief Financial Officer, the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice reviews the application and the Commissioner of Education recommends approval or denial of the application to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall approve or deny the application.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Application packet for Step Up For Students, Inc. (under separate cover)

**Facilitators/Presenters:** Adam Miller, Executive Director, Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice; Joe Pfountz, Chief Financial Officer, Step Up For Students, Inc.