FACT SHEET

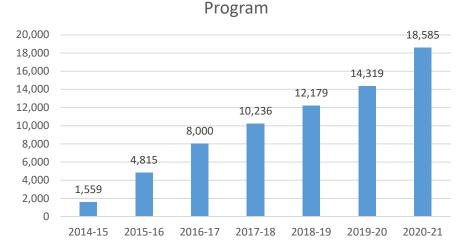
OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT

**EDUCATION & PARENTAL CHOICE** 



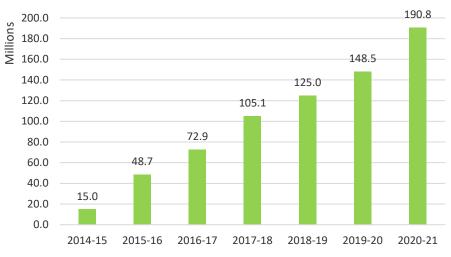
# Gardiner Scholarship Program

The Gardiner Scholarship Program provides eligible students with disabilities a scholarship that can be used to purchase approved services or products in order to design a customized educational program for the student. Scholarships can also be used for specialized services such as speech or occupational therapy, instructional materials, tuition at an eligible private school, contributions to a college prepaid account and more. The program is directly administered by state-approved nonprofit Scholarship Funding Organizations (SFOs). The average scholarship amount was approximately \$10,267 per student in 2020-21.



Total Students in Gardiner Scholarship

#### Gardiner Scholarship Payment By Year



#### **Statutory and Rule References**:

Section 1002.385, F.S. The Gardiner Scholarship | Rule 6A-6.0961, F.A.C. The Gardiner Scholarship The Gardiner Scholarship Program is repealed as of July 1, 2021.

Gardiner students are now eligible under the recently expanded Family Empowerment Scholarship Program.

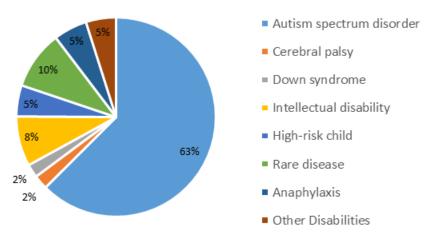




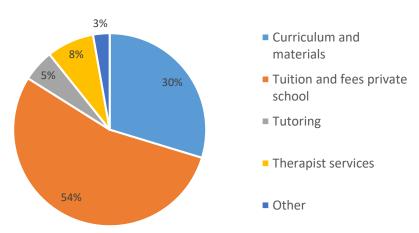
### **Gardiner Program Requirements**

- Students must have an IEP written in accordance with the rules of the State Board of Education or with the rules of another state OR the diagnosis of a Florida physician or psychologist or a physician who holds an active license issued by another state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Students must be at least 3 before Sept 1.
- Registered home education students can participate in the Gardiner Scholarship Program.

Gardiner Students by Disability Type



\* Other Disabilities include Prader-Willi Syndrome, Spina Bifida, Williams Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, Deaf, and certain other disabilities.



## Total Payment by Provider Category

\* Therapist Services include ABA, SLP, OT, PT, LSL and other therapist services. Other includes tuition and fees paid to virtual providers, postsecondary programs, Early Learning, postsecondary savings, and services contracted by public school districts.

### **Contact the SFOs for Application Instructions and Deadlines:**

Step Up For Students Phone: 1-877-735-7837 gardiner@stepupforstudents.org www.stepupforstudents.com A.A.A. Scholarship Foundation Phone/Fax: 1-888-707-2465 <u>info@aaascholarships.org</u> www.aaascholarships.org



