



March 8, 2011

Dear Prospective K-12th Parents,

Peniel Baptist Academy is a participant in the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program (FTC) which offers academic scholarships to eligible low-income families of K-12th grade students. Currently, the FTC scholarship program pays for a student's tuition, books, and other school fees up to \$4,106. Parents are responsible for all fees that exceed this amount.

PBA will continue to teach students using the Bible-based, Christ-centered ABEKA curriculum. The ABEKA curriculum is a phonics-based, advanced program of learning that has been used at Peniel to prepare kids with excellence for over forty years.

**ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?** To be eligible your child must meet the following criteria:

1. Your child is entering Kindergarten or 1st Grade, or
2. Your child is entering 2nd through 12th grade and attended a Florida public school for the entire previous school year, and
3. Your total family income in relation to the size of your household must be at or below the total gross monthly household income (see chart below):

Number of People in Household	Total Gross Monthly Household Income for New Applicants
2	\$2,268 per month
3	\$2,857 per month
4	\$3,446 per month
5	\$4,035 per month
	For each additional member, add \$589

**HOW TO APPLY?** Step Up for Students manages the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program for Putnam County. If your family meets the above criteria, your child/children may be eligible for the FTC scholarship.

1. Go online to [www.stepupforstudents.org](http://www.stepupforstudents.org). Click on "For Parents" and "Apply Now" to complete the online application. **The 2011-2012 Applications for new families will be available in early April.**
2. Before you apply online, you should have the following information with you at the computer:
  - ✓ Pay stubs from all jobs worked by all adults in the household for the most recent 30 days.
  - ✓ Current unemployment or workers compensation receipts for the most recent 30 days from all adults in the household currently receiving these benefits.
  - ✓ ALL Social Security benefit letters for everyone in your household specifying the monthly benefit for 2011 or 2010 if your household is supported by Social Security Income.
  - ✓ Child support documentation for all your children specifying how much you actually receive monthly if you are designated to receive child support.
  - ✓ The monthly calculated amount of all financial assistance currently received from the State or family members or friends.
  - ✓ Accurate Social Security numbers for ALL household members.
  - ✓ Your 2010 1040 tax return
3. Once you complete the online application, you must **send ECS all the required documentation and pay the \$30 non-refundable application fee. They will not process your application without this documentation and application fee.**
4. Step Up for Students will determine whether or not your family qualifies for a scholarship based on their review of your application responses and the supporting documentation that you are required to send to them.
5. If you qualify for a scholarship, Step Up for Students will release a **SCHOLARSHIP AWARD LETTER** for all eligible children in your family. The scholarship will only give financial assistance as of the date you receive the letter. **Please be careful to apply far enough in advance so that you will get your letter before school starts.**
6. Parents must give the Scholarship Award Letter to Peniel who will then apply it to your child's account. As stated above, the FTC scholarship program pays for a student's tuition, books, and other school fees up to \$4,106. Parents are responsible for all fees that exceed this amount.

We hope this information has helped you as prepare for the registration process at PBA. Please remember that PBA has no control on scholarship acceptance with Step Up for Students; however, we will be glad to help you as much as we can with the process. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 386-328-1707.

Sincerely,

*Lester Jenkins*

Administrator  
Peniel Baptist Academy