



School choice in



Washington

School choice is the process of allowing every family to choose the K-12 educational options that best fit their children.

TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREE
TO ATTEND



WIDELY AVAILABLE

Traditional public schools are available for families throughout the state. States that allow families access to their choice of traditional public schools offer what's called "open enrollment."

Washington parents may choose any traditional public school within their district. The state allows districts to set their own policies for transfers outside the district.

CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREE
TO ATTEND



PARTIALLY AVAILABLE

Charter schools are public schools that are allowed the freedom to innovate while being held accountable for student achievement.

Public charter schools are available for families in parts of Washington. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts or an independent statewide approval board.

MAGNET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREE
TO ATTEND



PARTIALLY AVAILABLE

Public magnet schools are permitted in all 50 states and focus on specific themes, such as math, science, technology, or the performing arts.

Washington does not have independent public magnet schools, but there may be magnet programs available in traditional public schools.

ONLINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



WIDELY AVAILABLE

Online public schools provide a fully online, free educational option to students through digital classes. Alternatively, course access allows parents to supplement students' education with a la carte online classes.

Washington offers several free, full-time online learning options for students. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction has compiled a list of districts with online learning options, some of which may offer free courses access.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

\$ FREE
FREE TO SOME



WIDELY AVAILABLE

Private schools are widely available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent. Many private schools or nonprofit organizations offer scholarships.

There are no state-run scholarship options in Washington state.

HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

Home education is permitted in all 50 states, and many homeschool families choose to participate in curriculum sharing groups, online learning activities, or cooperatives.

