



## School choice in



# Alabama

**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."

Alabama parents do not have the option to choose traditional public schools outside of the schools assigned to their children by their districts.

### 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 some parts of Alabama. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts or an independent, statewide approval board.

### MAGNET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREE

TO ATTEND



WIDELY AVAILABLE

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

### ONLINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



WIDELY AVAILABLE

Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.

Alabama offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, including Alabama Connections Academy, Alabama Virtual Academy, and Alabama Destinations Career Academy (K-10).

### 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.

Students below a certain income level or transferring from underperforming schools are eligible for state-run scholarship programs. Additional funding may be available from other sources.

### HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

All parents in Alabama have the freedom to homeschool their children. Parents must provide a one-time notification to the state (or school district) of their intent to homeschool. The state does not require homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects and does not require standardized testing for homeschoolers.

