



# School choice in



# Iowa

**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."

Iowa parents may be able to choose a traditional public school in another district, based on the state's open enrollment laws.

## 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 Iowa. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts.

## 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.

## ONLINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



WIDELY AVAILABLE

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

Iowa offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, such as Iowa Connections Academy and Iowa Virtual Academy.

## 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.

Iowa families can take tax deductions for nonpublic school expenses, and families under a certain income level can qualify for state-run scholarship opportunities. Additional funding may be available from other sources.

## HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

All parents in Iowa have the freedom to homeschool their children. In most cases, parents are not required to provide a notice of their intent to homeschool their children. However, please check for updated laws and regulations before proceeding. The state does not require standardized testing for homeschoolers, but does require parents to teach specific subjects in some cases.

