



School choice in



# New Jersey



**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."

New Jersey parents should check with their local school district if they wish to participate in open enrollment, since the state allows districts to set their own open enrollment policies.

## 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 New Jersey. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by the state.

## 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



NOT AVAILABLE

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

Unfortunately, New Jersey does not have a free, full-time online school option. New Jersey Virtual School offers full-time and credit-recovery enrollment to students in grades 6-12 for a fee.

## 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 New Jersey, but private scholarships may be available.

## HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

All parents in New Jersey have the freedom to homeschool their children. Currently, 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 requires homeschooling parents to give children an education that is academically "equivalent" to what he or she would receive at school, but does not require standardized testing for homeschoolers.

