



School choice in



Maryland

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

TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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."

OPEN ENROLLMENT



NOT AVAILABLE

Maryland 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



TO ATTEND



WIDELY 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 Maryland. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts.

MAGNET PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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. Maryland has several magnet schools.

ONLINE LEARNING



NOT AVAILABLE

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

NSCW was unable to find a free online school in Maryland, but paid options are available.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS



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.

Maryland families under a certain income level may qualify for a state-run scholarship program. Additional funding may be available from other sources.

HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

All parents in Maryland have the freedom to homeschool their children. Parents must provide an annual notification to the state (or school district) of their intent to homeschool. The state requires homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects and may also request to review samples of a homeschooling family's education materials and work.