



# 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



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



PARTIALLY AVAILABLE

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



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



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 LEARNING



WIDELY AVAILABLE

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

Washington offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, like Washington Virtual Academies, Washington Connections Academy, Virtual Prep Academy of Washington, and Insight School of Washington. Certain districts offer online learning, as well.

## 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.

There are no state-run scholarship options in Washington state, but private scholarships may be available.

## HOME EDUCATION



WIDELY AVAILABLE

All parents in Washington have the freedom to homeschool their children, provided they meet certain requirements. 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 also requires some level of assessment, testing, or evaluation of homeschooled students.