

SCHOOL CHOICE IN ALASKA

School choice is the process of families choosing the K-12 educational options that best fit their children.

	 Traditional Public Schools	Public Charter Schools 	 Magnet Public Schools	Online Learning 	 Private Schools	Home Education 
AVAILABILITY	broad*	broad	broad	limited	broad	broad
COST	free	free	free	free	free to some	free to some
IN ALASKA...	<p>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."</p> <p>In Alaska, parents of students who are assigned to persistently dangerous schools may be able to transfer their children to another school in their district, based on the state's limited open enrollment laws.</p>	<p>Charter schools are public schools that are allowed the freedom to innovate while being held accountable for student achievement.</p> <p>Public charter schools are available for families in some parts of Alaska. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts.</p>	<p>Public magnet schools are permitted in all 50 states and focus on specific themes, such as math, science, technology, or the performing arts.</p> <p>Alaska has some magnet schools throughout the state.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>NSCW was unable to find a free online school available statewide in Alaska, but some districts have free online programs for local families. Also, middle-school and high-school students in certain districts can enroll in online courses through the Alaska Digital Academy for a fee. Alaska has many correspondence school offerings too.</p>	<p>Private schools are widely available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent. Many private schools or nonprofit organizations offer scholarships.</p> <p>There are no state-run scholarship options in Alaska, but private scholarships may be available. Also, students in state-funded correspondence programs may be able to use education funding for select private school courses.</p>	<p>All parents in Alaska have the freedom to homeschool their children. Most parents are currently not required to provide a notice of their intent to homeschool their children. But, please check updated laws and regulations before proceeding. The state does not require homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects and does not require standardized testing in most cases. Homeschoolers can receive student funding allotments.</p>

*For more information, visit: schoolchoiceweek.com/guide-school-choice-alaska



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