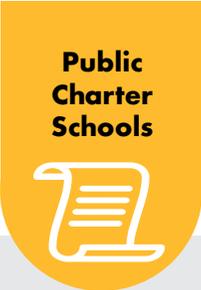


SCHOOL CHOICE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

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	limited	limited	broad	broad
COST	free	free	free	free	free to some	varies
IN WASHINGTON, D.C....	<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>The District of Columbia operates as a single school district. In D.C., families can apply to traditional public schools outside of the school assigned to them through a lottery system.</p>	<p>Charter schools are public schools that are allowed the freedom to innovate while being held accountable for student achievement.</p> <p>Charter school legislation for Washington, D.C. was passed in 1996. Today, there are more than 100 charter schools in the district. You can apply to participating public charter schools through the My School DC Public School Lottery.</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>D.C. has a handful of public magnet schools or magnet programs, such as Duke Ellington School of the Arts, where students receive professional arts training as well as academic preparation.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>Students in Washington D.C., from kindergarten through eighth school, can enroll full-time in Friendship Public Charter School, a fully online, tuition-free school. The school does not offer a part-time option, but paid part-time options may be available from other providers.</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>Washington, D.C. students whose families meet certain income limits may qualify for a state-run scholarship program. Additional funding may be available from other sources.</p>	<p>All parents in Washington, D.C. have the freedom to homeschool their children, provided the parent has a high school diploma or its equivalent.</p> <p>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 but does not require homeschoolers to take standardized tests.</p>

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



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