







# SCHOOL CHOICE IN HAWAII

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

	 <b>Traditional Public Schools</b>	<b>Public Charter Schools</b> 	 <b>Magnet Public Schools</b>	<b>Online Learning</b> 	 <b>Private Schools</b>	<b>Home Education</b> 
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>	<b>broad*</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>limited*</b>	<b>limited</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>broad</b>
<b>COST</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free to some</b>	<b>varies</b>
<b>IN HAWAII...</b>	<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>Hawaii operates as one district divided into 15 "complex areas." Parents can contact the district about whether they can choose a school outside of their assigned area. Geographic exceptions are sometimes allowed.</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 parts of Hawaii. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by an independent statewide approval board, colleges and universities, or other organizations.</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>Currently, Hawaii does not have freestanding public magnet schools, but there may be magnet programs available in traditional public schools.</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 full-time online school available statewide in Hawaii, but paid options are available. Blended learning charter schools are available statewide. Also, public high school and middle school students can take classes through the Hawaii Virtual Learning Network.</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 Hawaii, but private scholarships may be available.</p>	<p>All parents in Hawaii have the freedom to homeschool their children.</p> <p>Parents must provide a one-time notification to the state (or school district) of their intent to homeschool. The state does not require homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects but does require a structured curriculum and some level of assessment or testing.</p>

\* For more information, visit: [schoolchoiceweek.com/guide-school-choice-hawaii](http://schoolchoiceweek.com/guide-school-choice-hawaii)



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