







# SCHOOL CHOICE IN NORTH CAROLINA

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>broad</b>	<b>broad</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>free to some</b>
<b>IN NORTH CAROLINA...</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>In general, the state does not allow parents to choose traditional public schools outside of the schools assigned to their children by their districts. However, there may be a few exceptions, such as in cases of unique hardship.</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 across North Carolina. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by the state.</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>North Carolina has many 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>In North Carolina, middle school and high school students may enroll full-time or part-time in North Carolina Virtual Public School. Other full-time options include North Carolina Virtual Academy and North Carolina Cyber Academy.</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>North Carolina's students with disabilities, or whose families meet certain income guidelines, can qualify for state-run scholarships. Additional funding may be available from other sources.</p>	<p>All parents in North Carolina have the freedom to homeschool their children, provided that the parent holds a high school diploma.</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 some level of assessment. Some homeschoolers with IEPs may be able to apply for a state-run scholarship.</p>

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



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