







SCHOOL CHOICE IN VIRGINIA

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*	limited	broad	broad	broad	broad
COST	free	free	free	free	free to some	varies
IN VIRGINIA...	<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>Virginia parents should check with their local school district if they wish to participate in open enrollment, since the state allows districts to set their own open enrollment policies.</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 Virginia. 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>Virginia has several magnet school options.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>Virginia students can enroll in free, full-time online learning through Virginia Virtual Academy. Students in middle and high school may be able to take part-time or full-time online classes through their local school in partnership with Virtual Virginia, the state's virtual school.</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>Virginia students who meet certain income requirements may qualify for a state-run scholarship program. Additional funding may be available from other sources.</p>	<p>All parents in Virginia have the freedom to homeschool their children.</p> <p>Parents must provide an annual notification to the state (or school district) of their intent to homeschool. The state does not require homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects but may require some level of assessment, testing, or evaluation depending on the homeschool option chosen.</p>

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



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