







SCHOOL CHOICE IN WASHINGTON

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 WASHINGTON...	<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>Washington parents may choose any traditional public school within their district. The state allows districts to set their own policies for transfers outside the district.</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 Washington. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts or an independent statewide approval board.</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>Washington has several magnet schools and programs throughout the state.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>Washington offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, like Washington Virtual Academies, Washington Connections Academy, and Virtual Prep Academy of Washington. Certain districts offer online learning, as well.</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 Washington state, but private scholarships may be available.</p>	<p>All parents in Washington have the freedom to homeschool their children, provided they meet certain requirements.</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 and also requires some level of assessment, testing, or evaluation of homeschooled students.</p>

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



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