







SCHOOL CHOICE IN ALABAMA

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 ALABAMA...	<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>Alabama parents of children who are assigned to failing schools may be able to choose another school within their district, and sometimes outside of their 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 some parts of Alabama. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by an independent statewide approval board or a school district.</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>Alabama has more than thirty magnet schools.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>Alabama offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, including Alabama Connections Academy, Alabama Virtual Academy, Genesis Innovative School, and Alabama Destinations Career Academy.</p>	<p>Private schools are available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent. Many private schools or nonprofit organizations offer scholarships.</p> <p>Alabama students below a certain income level, with an IEP, or transferring from underperforming schools are eligible for scholarship or tax-credit programs. By 2027, all students will be eligible. Additional funding may be available.</p>	<p>All parents in Alabama 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 and does not require standardized testing for homeschoolers.</p>

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



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