

SCHOOL CHOICE IN OHIO

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*	broad	broad	broad	broad	broad
COST	free	free	free	free	free to some	free to some
IN OHIO...	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." Ohio requires districts to offer open enrollment policies for in-district transfers and students attending alternative schools. Ohio districts set their own policies for transfers between districts, so families should check locally.	Charter schools are public schools that are allowed the freedom to innovate while being held accountable for student achievement. Public charter schools are available for families in parts of Ohio. In Ohio, charter schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts, the state, colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, or other agencies.	Public magnet schools are permitted in all 50 states and focus on specific themes, such as math, science, technology, or the performing arts. In Ohio, there are several magnet schools and programs throughout the state.	Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes. Ohio offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, like Ohio Virtual Academy, Buckeye Online School for Success, Alternative Education Academy, Quaker Digital Academy, Greater Ohio Virtual School, Great River Connections Academy, and Ohio Connections Academy.	Private schools are widely available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent. Many private schools or nonprofit organizations offer scholarships. Ohio has several state-run scholarships, including programs for students with autism, students assigned to underperforming schools, low-income students, and students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District.	All parents in Ohio have the freedom to homeschool their children. Parents must provide an annual notification to the state or district of their intent to homeschool and are eligible for a \$250 tax credit. The state requires homeschooling parents to teach specific subjects and also requires some level of assessment of students. Some homeschoolers with special needs may be eligible for a state-run scholarship.

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



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