







# SCHOOL CHOICE IN SOUTH 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> 
AVAILABILITY	broad*	broad	broad	broad	broad	broad
COST	free	free	free	free	free to some	varies
IN SOUTH CAROLINA...	<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>South Carolina 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 across South Carolina. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts, an independent statewide approval board, or colleges and universities.</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>South Carolina has many magnet choices throughout the state.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>South Carolina offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, like South Carolina Virtual Charter School, South Carolina Connections Academy, SC Whitmore School, the South Carolina Preparatory Academy, Odyssey Online Learning, and Cyber Academy of South Carolina.</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>South Carolina students with disabilities may qualify for a state-run scholarship program. Additional funding may be available from other sources.</p>	<p>All parents in South Carolina have the freedom to homeschool their children.</p> <p>Parents using the state's homeschool statute must provide 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-south-carolina](https://schoolchoiceweek.com/guide-school-south-carolina)



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