







# SCHOOL CHOICE IN GEORGIA

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> 
<b>AVAILABILITY</b>	<b>broad*</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>broad</b>	<b>broad</b>
<b>COST</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>free to some</b>	<b>varies</b>
<b>IN GEORGIA...</b>	<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>Georgia parents may choose any traditional public school within (and, in some cases, outside of) their district, based on the state's flexible open enrollment laws.</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 Georgia. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts, an independent statewide approval board, or the state.</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>Georgia has more than 20 magnet schools throughout the state.</p>	<p>Online public schools are permanent, fully-online, and free educational options that teach students through digital classes.</p> <p>Georgia offers several free, full-time online learning options for students, including Georgia Virtual School, Georgia Connections Academy, and Georgia Cyber Academy.</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>All public school students in Georgia may be eligible to apply for a scholarship through Georgia's education expense tax credit program. The state also has two scholarship programs specifically for public school students with special needs or enrolled in low-performing schools.</p>	<p>All parents in Georgia have the freedom to homeschool their children, provided that the teaching parent holds a high school diploma or GED.</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-georgia](http://schoolchoiceweek.com/guide-school-choice-georgia)



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