







SCHOOL CHOICE IN FLORIDA

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 FLORIDA...	<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>Florida parents may choose any traditional public school within their district, or in another 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 across Florida. These schools can be opened after they are authorized by school districts.</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>Florida has many 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>Florida has the largest state virtual school in the nation: Florida Virtual School. Other free online learning options are available too, including Florida Connections Academy, Coastal Connections Academy, Florida Cyber Charter Academy, and Digital Academy of Florida.</p>	<p>Private schools are widely available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent.</p> <p>Many private schools or nonprofit organizations offer scholarships.</p> <p>Florida's state-run scholarships extend to students in families with modest incomes, with an Individualized Education Plan, or victims of violence in public schools, in addition to a few other groups. Additional funding may be available.</p>	<p>All parents in Florida have the freedom to homeschool their children.</p> <p>Parents using the state's homeschool statute 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 but does require testing for those using the homeschool statute. Some homeschoolers with special needs may be eligible for a state-run scholarship.</p>

