K12 ACADEMICS — NATIONAL REFERENCE SERIES



School Choice

All 50 States + D.C.

ESAs, vouchers, tax credits & open enrollment — the private & public choice landscape by state.

K12 ACADEMICS

Find Your Community

2026 EDITION

ABOUT THIS REFERENCE

How every state compares.

This reference covers **school choice** in all 50 states and the District of Columbia — one page per state, with the key facts at a glance and a plain-English summary. Part of K12 Academics, the world's largest education resource, online since 2004.

21+	200+	30M+	185
Years online	Directories	People / year	Countries / month

A NOTE ON ACCURACY

State rules change. Every entry links to that state's full, regularly-updated guide online, and we recommend confirming specifics with the state's official department of education.

SEARCH 200+ DIRECTORIES

K-12 Schools · Colleges & Universities · Vendors · Summer Programs · International Programs · Performers

STATE 01 OF 51

Alabama

AT A GLANCE

Program	CHOOSE Act (refundable tax credit/...
Amount	~$7,000 per student
Phase-in	Income-prioritized first, broader...
Also	Existing tax-credit scholarships
Confirm with	The state program

OVERVIEW

Alabama enacted the CHOOSE Act , a refundable tax-credit / education-savings program (about $7,000 per student) that is phasing in — prioritizing lower-income families and students with disabilities first, then broadening over time. Alabama also has existing tax-credit scholarship programs and a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ ALABAMA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 02 OF 51

Alaska

AT A GLANCE

Private voucher/ESA?	**No traditional program**
Distinctive	**Correspondence-school allotments**
Note	**Allotment use recently litigated**
Public choice	**Charters, homeschool, corresponden…**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Alaska does not have a traditional private-school voucher or ESA. It has a distinctive correspondence-school allotment system — families enrolled in state correspondence (homeschool) programs receive an allotment for approved educational materials and services. How those allotments may be used (including for private-school…

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school…
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ ALASKA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →



STATE 03 OF 51

Arizona

AT A GLANCE

Flagship	Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (...
Type	Universal ESA (first in U.S., 2022...
Also	4 tax-credit scholarship programs
Plus	Large public charter sector
Confirm with	The ESA program

OVERVIEW

Arizona is a school-choice pioneer : it created the nation's first universal Education Savings Account (ESA) in 2022, and also has tax-credit scholarship programs and one of the largest public charter sectors in the country.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ ARIZONA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 04 OF 51

Arkansas

AT A GLANCE

Program	Children's Educational Freedom Acc...
Type	Universal ESA (LEARNS Act)
Status	Fully phased in (2025–26)
Note	Facing a legal challenge
Confirm with	The state program

OVERVIEW

Arkansas created the Children's Educational Freedom Account (ESA) through the LEARNS Act . After a phase-in, it became universal (all K-12 students eligible) in 2025–26. It provides funds for private-school tuition and approved expenses. Arkansas also has a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ ARKANSAS'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →



STATE 05 OF 51

California

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Charters, magnets, open enrollment**
Charters	**Among the most in the nation**
Homeschool	**Legal (via several options)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

California does not have a statewide private -school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). But California offers extensive public school choice — it has one of the largest charter-school sectors in the country, plus magnets and open enrollment.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ CALIFORNIA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 06 OF 51

Colorado

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Very strong open enrollment + char...**
Open enrollment	**One of the most robust in the U.S.**
Homeschool	**Legal (with notice)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Colorado does not have a statewide private -school-choice program (a local Douglas County voucher was struck down years ago). But Colorado has some of the strongest public school choice in the country — robust open enrollment and a large charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ COLORADO'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 07 OF 51

Connecticut

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Magnets, Open Choice, charters**
Magnets	**A major regional magnet system**
Homeschool	**Legal**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Connecticut does not have a private-school-choice program. It has notable public choice, especially its regional magnet schools and the Open Choice program (which lets students attend public school in another district), plus charters.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ CONNECTICUT'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 08 OF 51

Delaware

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Strong statewide open enrollment**
Also	**Charters & vo-tech schools**
Homeschool	**Legal (registered)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Delaware does not have a private-school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). But it has strong public choice: a statewide school-choice / open-enrollment law, a charter sector, and vocational-technical schools.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ DELAWARE'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →



STATE 09 OF 51

Florida

AT A GLANCE

Programs	**Family Empowerment + FL Tax Credit**
Type	**Scholarships/ESAs (universal-eligi...**
Scale	**Among the largest in the U.S.**
Admin	**Step Up For Students & others**
Plus	**Extensive public charters**
Confirm with	**The scholarship organization**

OVERVIEW

Florida has among the broadest school-choice programs in the country . Its scholarships are universal-eligible (open to essentially all K-12 students, with priority for lower-income families), and are administered by scholarship-funding organizations like Step Up For Students . Florida also has a very large public charter...

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ FLORIDA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →



STATE 10 OF 51

Georgia

AT A GLANCE

Newest	**Georgia Promise Scholarship (ESA)**
ESA eligibility	**Zoned to low-performing schools**
Also	**Tax-credit scholarship + special-n...**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Georgia has several choice programs: the newer Georgia Promise Scholarship (an ESA), a long-running tax-credit scholarship , and the Special Needs Scholarship (a voucher). It also has a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ GEORGIA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →



STATE 11 OF 51

Hawaii

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
System	**Single statewide district**
Public choice	**Charters & geographic exceptions**
Homeschool	**Legal (with notice)**
Confirm with	**HIDOE**

OVERVIEW

Hawaii — a single statewide school district — does not have a private-school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). It offers public choice through charter schools and a geographic exception process (limited transfers between public schools).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ HAWAII'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 12 OF 51

Idaho

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Idaho Parental Choice Tax Credit**
Type	**Refundable tax credit (new, 2025)**
Amount	**Up to $5,000 ($7,500 for disabilit...**
Cap	**$50M annually; income priority**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Idaho enacted its first private-school-choice program in 2025 — the Idaho Parental Choice Tax Credit , a refundable tax credit for private and home education expenses. It was upheld by the Idaho Supreme Court in early 2026. Idaho also has a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ IDAHO'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 13 OF 51

Illinois

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**Program expired (2024)**
Was	**Invest in Kids tax-credit scholars…**
Now	**Public choice only**
Public choice	**Charters, magnets, open enrollment**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Illinois' private-school-choice program has expired . The state's Invest in Kids tax-credit scholarship program ended on January 1, 2024, making Illinois the first state to roll back a private-choice program. Illinois still offers public choice (charters, magnets, open enrollment).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school…
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ ILLINOIS'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 14 OF 51

Indiana

AT A GLANCE

Flagship	Choice Scholarship (voucher)
Change	Income cap removed — broadly avail...
Also	Education Scholarship Account (ESA...
Plus	Public charters
Confirm with	The state program

OVERVIEW

Indiana has one of the older, larger voucher programs — the Choice Scholarship — and it recently removed its income cap , making it broadly available . Indiana also has an Education Scholarship Account (ESA) and a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ INDIANA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 15 OF 51

Iowa

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Students First ESA**
Type	**Universal ESA (fully phased in)**
Amount	**~$7,800+ per student**
Plus	**Public open enrollment & charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Iowa enacted the Students First Education Savings Account (ESA) program, a universal ESA that (as of 2025–26) is available to all K-12 students. It provides a state-funded account for private-school tuition and approved expenses. Iowa also has public open enrollment and a newer charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ IOWA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 16 OF 51

Kansas

AT A GLANCE

Program	Low Income Students Scholarship (t...
Type	Tax-credit scholarship (income-lim...
No	ESA or voucher
Plus	Public open enrollment
Confirm with	A scholarship organization

OVERVIEW

Kansas has the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program — a tax-credit scholarship for lower-income students — plus public open enrollment. It does not currently have an ESA or voucher (broader proposals have been debated but not enacted).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ KANSAS'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 17 OF 51

Kentucky

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No — amendment failed (2024)**
Background	**Courts blocked prior programs**
Public choice	**Open enrollment; charter law**
Homeschool	**Legal**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Kentucky does not currently have a private-school-choice program. The state's courts had blocked earlier attempts (finding them inconsistent with the constitution), and a 2024 ballot amendment that would have allowed public funds for private schooling failed . Kentucky offers public choice (open enrollment; a charter-school...

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ KENTUCKY'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 18 OF 51

Louisiana

AT A GLANCE

Program	**LA GATOR Scholarship (ESA)**
Replaces	**The former statewide voucher**
Phase-in	**Prioritized first, broadening**
Plus	**Public charters (esp. New Orleans)**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Louisiana enacted the LA GATOR Scholarship , an Education Savings Account (ESA) program that is phasing in and replacing the state's former private-school voucher. Louisiana also has a significant public charter sector (especially in New Orleans).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ LOUISIANA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 19 OF 51

Maine

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Town tuitioning**
How	**Towns without schools pay tuition...**
Since Carson v. Makin	**Can include religious schools**
No	**Statewide ESA or voucher**
Confirm with	**Your town/SAU**

OVERVIEW

Maine has a distinctive, long-standing town tuitioning system: towns that do not operate their own public school at some grade levels pay tuition for their students to attend another public school or an approved private school. Since the U.S. Supreme Court's Carson v. Makin (2022) decision, eligible private schools can include...

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MAINE'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 20 OF 51

Maryland

AT A GLANCE

Program	**BOOST scholarship**
Type	**Voucher/scholarship (income-limite...**
For	**Lower-income students**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Maryland has the BOOST program (Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today) — a scholarship/voucher for low-income students to attend participating private schools — plus a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MARYLAND'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 21 OF 51

Massachusetts

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Charters + Interdistrict School Ch...**
Charters	**A well-known public charter sector**
Homeschool	**Legal (approved by district)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Massachusetts does not have a private-school-choice program. It offers strong public choice: a well-known charter sector and the Interdistrict School Choice program (attend a participating public school in another district, tuition-free).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MASSACHUSETTS'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 22 OF 51

Michigan

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No (constitutional ban)**
Public choice	**Charters & Schools of Choice**
Charters	**A large public charter sector**
Open enrollment	**Schools of Choice program**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Michigan does not have a private-school-choice program — the state constitution bars public funding for private-school tuition (and voters have declined to change it). Michigan does offer robust public choice: a large charter sector and the Schools of Choice open-enrollment program.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MICHIGAN'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 23 OF 51

Minnesota

AT A GLANCE

Programs	**Education deduction & credit**
Type	**Individual tax benefits (not vouch...**
Oldest	**Tax deduction dates to 1955**
Plus	**Strong public open enrollment + ch...**
Confirm with	**MN Dept. of Revenue**

OVERVIEW

Minnesota does not have vouchers or ESAs, but it has the oldest education tax benefits in the country — the K-12 Education Subtraction (deduction) and the K-12 Education Credit — plus one of the earliest and strongest public open-enrollment systems and a large charter sector (Minnesota created the first charter school).

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MINNESOTA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 24 OF 51

Mississippi

AT A GLANCE

Programs	**Special-needs ESAs (disability-bas...**
Includes	**Dyslexia & speech-language scholar...**
Type	**Targeted ESAs (not universal)**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Mississippi's private-choice programs are primarily targeted to students with specific needs — including the Mississippi ESA for students with disabilities and scholarships for dyslexia and speech-language therapy. Mississippi also has a public charter sector. It does not currently have a universal program.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MISSISSIPPI'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 25 OF 51

Missouri

AT A GLANCE

Program	**MOScholars (Empowerment Scholarshi...**
Type	**Tax-credit-funded scholarship/ESA**
Note	**Under legal challenge**
Plus	**Public charters (KC & St. Louis)**
Confirm with	**An educational-assistance org**

OVERVIEW

Missouri has a tax-credit-funded scholarship program — MOScholars (Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts) — that helps eligible students with private-school and education expenses, plus a public charter sector in Kansas City and St. Louis.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MISSOURI'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 26 OF 51

Montana

AT A GLANCE

Programs	Special-needs ESA + tax-credit sch...
Type	Targeted/limited
Note	New special-needs ESA; confirm fun...
Plus	Public charters (newer)
Confirm with	The state program

OVERVIEW

Montana has a tax-credit scholarship program and a newer Education Savings Account for students with disabilities . These are targeted/limited rather than universal. Montana also has a newer public charter framework.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ MONTANA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 27 OF 51

Nebraska

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	No — repealed by referendum (2024)
Was	Opportunity Scholarships tax-credi...
Public choice	Option enrollment; charter framewo...
Homeschool	Legal (as exempt schools)
Confirm with	Your district

OVERVIEW

Nebraska does not currently have a private-school-choice program. The legislature had created a tax-credit scholarship program (Opportunity Scholarships), but voters repealed it by referendum in November 2024 . Nebraska offers public choice through option enrollment .

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEBRASKA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 28 OF 51

Nevada

AT A GLANCE

Program	Opportunity Scholarship (tax-credi...
Type	Tax-credit scholarship (capped)
Note	2015 ESA passed but never funded
Plus	Public charters & open enrollment
Confirm with	A scholarship organization

OVERVIEW

Nevada has the Opportunity Scholarship , a tax-credit scholarship program (with a funding cap) that helps income-eligible students attend private schools. (A 2015 universal ESA law passed but was never funded and is effectively inactive.) Nevada also has public charters and open enrollment.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEVADA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 29 OF 51

New Hampshire

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Education Freedom Accounts (ESA)**
Direction	**Expanding toward universal (2026)**
Also	**Town tuitioning & tax-credit schol...**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

New Hampshire has Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs) — an ESA program — along with a long tradition of town tuitioning (some towns without their own schools pay tuition elsewhere) and a tax-credit scholarship . The EFA program has been expanding toward universal eligibility .

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 30 OF 51

New Jersey

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Interdistrict School Choice + char...**
Interdistrict	**Attend a participating out-of-dist...**
Homeschool	**Legal**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

New Jersey does not have a statewide private -school-choice program. It does offer public choice, notably the Interdistrict Public School Choice Program (attend a participating public school in another district, tuition-free) and charter schools.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEW JERSEY'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 31 OF 51

New Mexico

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Open enrollment & charters**
Charters	**A well-established charter sector**
Homeschool	**Legal (registered with the state)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

New Mexico does not have a private-school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). It offers public choice through statewide open enrollment and a well-established charter-school sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEW MEXICO'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 32 OF 51

New York

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Charters, magnets, some open enrol...**
Charters	**Notable in NYC & other cities**
Homeschool	**Legal (with state rules)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

New York does not have a statewide private -school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). It does offer public choice — notably charter schools (especially in New York City) and some magnet and open-enrollment options.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NEW YORK'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 33 OF 51

North Carolina

AT A GLANCE

Flagship	**Opportunity Scholarship (voucher)**
Eligibility	**Expanded to broadly universal**
Also	**ESA+ (students with disabilities)**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

North Carolina has a voucher -based choice system — the Opportunity Scholarship , which was expanded to broad (near-universal) eligibility in 2024 — plus the ESA+ account for students with disabilities and a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NORTH CAROLINA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 34 OF 51

North Dakota

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No active statewide program**
Note	**ESA proposals debated, not enacted**
Public choice	**Open enrollment**
Homeschool	**Legal (with requirements)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

North Dakota does not currently have an active statewide private-school-choice program. Education-savings-account proposals have been debated in the legislature but not enacted into a broad program. North Dakota offers public choice through open enrollment.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ NORTH DAKOTA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 35 OF 51

Ohio

AT A GLANCE	
Flagship	**EdChoice Scholarship (voucher)**
Eligibility	**Expanded to broadly universal**
Also	**Cleveland, autism & special-needs...**
Note	**Under legal challenge**
Plus	**Public charters (community schools...**
Confirm with	**The scholarship program**

OVERVIEW

Ohio has a large voucher -based school-choice system — the EdChoice Scholarship , which was expanded to broad (near-universal) eligibility — plus targeted scholarships and a big public charter ("community school") sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ OHIO'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 36 OF 51

Oklahoma

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Parental Choice Tax Credit**
Type	**Refundable tax credit**
Amount	**$5,000–$7,500 per student**
Cap	**Annual funding cap ($250M)**
Confirm with	**OK Tax Commission**

OVERVIEW

Oklahoma has the Parental Choice Tax Credit — a refundable tax credit (roughly $5,000–$7,500 per student , more for lower-income families) that helps pay private-school tuition. Oklahoma also has a public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ OKLAHOMA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 37 OF 51

Oregon

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Open enrollment & charters**
Homeschool	**Legal (with notice & testing)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Oregon does not have a private-school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). It offers public choice through open enrollment (where districts participate) and charter schools.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ OREGON'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 38 OF 51

Pennsylvania

AT A GLANCE

Programs	EITC & OSTC (tax-credit scholarshi...
Type	Tax-credit scholarships (income-li...
No	Statewide ESA or voucher
Plus	Public charters & cyber charters
Confirm with	A scholarship organization

OVERVIEW

Pennsylvania has two well-known tax-credit scholarship programs — the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) — plus a large public charter and cyber-charter sector. It does not currently have a statewide ESA or voucher.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ PENNSYLVANIA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 39 OF 51

Rhode Island

AT A GLANCE

Program	Tax-credit scholarship (corporate)
Type	Tax-credit scholarship (income-lim...
No	ESA or voucher
Plus	Public charters
Confirm with	A scholarship organization

OVERVIEW

Rhode Island has a small corporate tax-credit scholarship program that funds private-school scholarships for income-eligible students, plus a public charter sector. It does not currently have an ESA or voucher.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ RHODE ISLAND'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com

STATE 40 OF 51

South Carolina

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Education Scholarship Trust Fund (...**
History	**Struck down 2024; revised 2025**
Note	**Confirm current status closely**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

South Carolina created the Education Scholarship Trust Fund (ESTF) , an Education Savings Account (ESA) program. The state's highest court struck down part of the original program in 2024, and lawmakers revised and re-enacted it in 2025. Because of that history, confirm the current status carefully. South Carolina also has a...

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ SOUTH CAROLINA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 41 OF 51

South Dakota

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Partners in Education (tax-credit)**
Type	**Tax-credit scholarship (income-lim...**
Funded by	**Insurance-company tax credits**
Plus	**Public open enrollment**
Confirm with	**A scholarship organization**

OVERVIEW

South Dakota has the Partners in Education Tax Credit program — a tax-credit scholarship (funded by insurance-company donations) that helps income-eligible students attend participating private schools — plus public open enrollment. It does not have an ESA or voucher.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ SOUTH DAKOTA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 42 OF 51

Tennessee

AT A GLANCE

New program	**Universal ESA (Education Freedom A...**
Amount	**$7,000 per student**
Cap	**Started at 20,000 (rising)**
Also	**IEA (students with disabilities)**
Note	**Under legal challenge**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Tennessee enacted a universal Education Savings Account (ESA) program in 2025 (the Education Freedom Act), providing eligible students about $7,000 to spend on approved education expenses. Tennessee also has the Individualized Education Account (IEA) for students with disabilities.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ TENNESSEE'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 43 OF 51

Texas

AT A GLANCE

New program	**Universal ESA (SB 2)**
Launches	**2026–27 school year**
Amount	**~$10,000 per student**
Type	**Education Savings Account**
Plus	**Public charters & open enrollment**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Texas enacted a universal Education Savings Account (ESA) program in 2025 (Senate Bill 2) — one of the largest single school-choice expansions in the country — scheduled to launch in the 2026–27 school year . Texas also has a large public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ TEXAS'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 44 OF 51

Utah

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Utah Fits All Scholarship (ESA)**
Type	**Universal-eligible ESA**
Note	**Under legal challenge**
Plus	**Public charters**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Utah created the Utah Fits All Scholarship , a universal-eligible Education Savings Account (ESA) that gives eligible families funds for private-school and approved education expenses. The program is currently the subject of ongoing litigation . Utah also has a large public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ UTAH'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 45 OF 51

Vermont

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Town tuitioning**
How	**Towns without schools pay tuition…**
Since Carson v. Makin	**Can include religious schools**
No	**Statewide ESA or voucher**
Confirm with	**Your school district / SU**

OVERVIEW

Vermont has one of the oldest town tuitioning systems in the country: towns that do not operate their own public school at certain grade levels pay tuition for their students to attend another public school or an approved independent school. Since Carson v. Makin (2022) , eligible independent schools can include religious…

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school…
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ VERMONT'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 46 OF 51

Virginia

AT A GLANCE

Program	Education Improvement Scholarships...
Type	Tax-credit scholarship (income-lim...
For	Lower-income students
Plus	Public charters & open enrollment
Confirm with	A scholarship foundation

OVERVIEW

Virginia has a tax-credit scholarship program — the Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits (EISTC) program — which helps lower-income students attend private schools, funded by donations for which donors receive tax credits. Virginia also offers public choice.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ VIRGINIA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 47 OF 51

Washington

AT A GLANCE

Private choice?	**No statewide program**
Public choice	**Open enrollment + limited charters**
Charters	**A small, legally contested sector**
Homeschool	**Legal (with state rules)**
Confirm with	**Your district**

OVERVIEW

Washington does not have a private-school-choice program (no ESA, voucher, or tax-credit scholarship). It offers public choice through open enrollment and a small (and legally contested) charter-school sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ WASHINGTON'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 48 OF 51

Washington, D.C.

AT A GLANCE

Program	**DC Opportunity Scholarship (vouche...**
Distinctive	**Federally funded (unique)**
For	**Lower-income D.C. students**
Plus	**Very large public charter sector**
Confirm with	**The program administrator**

OVERVIEW

Washington, D.C. has the DC Opportunity Scholarship Program — a voucher for lower-income students that is federally funded (the only such program in the country). D.C. also has one of the largest public charter sectors anywhere — a big share of D.C. students attend charters.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ WASHINGTON, D.C.'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 49 OF 51

West Virginia

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Hope Scholarship (ESA)**
Milestone	**First universal ESA (2021)**
Type	**Universal ESA (~$5,000)**
Plus	**Public charters (newer sector)**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

West Virginia launched the Hope Scholarship in 2021 — the nation's first universal Education Savings Account (ESA) . It gives eligible families a state-funded account for private-school and approved education expenses, and is now fully universal . West Virginia also has a newer public charter sector.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ WEST VIRGINIA'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 50 OF 51

Wisconsin

AT A GLANCE

Programs	Milwaukee, Racine & statewide vouc…
Type	Vouchers (income-limited)
Oldest	Milwaukee Parental Choice (1990)
Also	Special Needs Scholarship
Plus	Public charters
Confirm with	The state program

OVERVIEW

Wisconsin is the birthplace of the modern school voucher — the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (1990) was the first in the nation. Wisconsin now runs several income-limited voucher programs , plus a Special Needs Scholarship and public charters.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school…
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ WISCONSIN'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

STATE 51 OF 51

Wyoming

AT A GLANCE

Program	**Steamboat Legacy Scholarship (ESA)**
Type	**Universal ESA (new, 2025)**
Amount	**~$7,000 per student**
Note	**Confirm funding/status**
Confirm with	**The state program**

OVERVIEW

Wyoming enacted a universal Education Savings Account (ESA) — the Steamboat Legacy Scholarship — in 2025, providing eligible families about $7,000 for private-school and approved education expenses. As a new program, confirm its current funding and status.

KEY POINTS

- **Open enrollment / transfers** — Attend a public school outside your zone, where allowed (see our finding-your-school...
- **Charter schools** — Tuition-free public schools of choice (where available)
- **Magnet schools** — Tuition-free public schools with a specialized focus

READ WYOMING'S FULL GUIDE
tools.k12academics.com →

KEEP EXPLORING

Find Your Community.

This is one of five national reference volumes. Explore **1,297 free guides** — including a full education guide for every state — plus directories of schools in your community.

tools.k12academics.com →

K12 ACADEMICS

k12academics.com

© 2004–2026 K12 Academics