

ALABAMA

K-12 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS



COST

FREE

Traditional Public Schools are free and available for all students ages 6-17. Students assigned to a priority school (score D-F grade on state report card) have the option to enroll in a qualifying public school within their school system or outside of their school system, if available.



FREE

Public Charter Schools are public schools that are allowed flexibility to innovate while being held accountable to student achievement. Public charter schools are available for students in some parts of Alabama. There are currently 14 public charter schools operational in the 2023-2024 school year. These schools can be opened only after they are authorized by the Alabama Public Charter School Commission or a local school board.



FREE

Public Magnet Schools are public schools with a focus on specific themes such as math, science, technology, or the performing arts. Alabama has more than thirty magnet schools.



FREE

Online Public Schools are free, fully online options for students to learn through digital classes. Alabama offers several free, full-time online learning options for students.



TUITION

Private Schools are widely available, charge tuition, and may be faith-based or independent. Private schools may have their own selection criteria for enrolling students. The state does not have accreditation, licensing, student assessment, or approval requirements for private schools.



VARIES

Homeschooling is available for all students in Alabama. Parents must provide a one-time notification to their local school system of their intent to homeschool. Like private schools, homeschools are also not regulated by the state and are also exempt from reporting student registration. Homeschools are not required to teach specific subjects or administer state assessments or standardized testing.