

Florida offers many taxpayer funded choices for students' education.

- District-run neighborhood schools
- District-run magnet schools
- Charter schools
- Virtual schools
- Vouchers and Education Savings Accounts
 - Private schools
 - Tutoring
 - Home schooling

Which choice provides the most robust education experience?

Research is mixed on academic outcomes for the various choices. Making an informed choice is essential for providing the best option for each child.

Take a look inside for comparisons...

The Florida Constitution requires a high quality free public education system.

Article IX states that “the education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida.”

Article IX requires that the system be...

- Uniform
- Efficient
- Safe
- Secure
- High quality

Presented by:



League of Women Voters of Florida
lwvfl.org

"Education is the key to preserving democracy and assuring prosperity for all citizens."

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL CHOICE



A QUICK GLANCE

	District	Charter	Private
Curriculum covers state standards based on national norms	✓	✓	-
Certified professional teachers	✓	✓	-
Certified professional administrators	✓	-	-
Governed by an elected school board	✓	-	-
Academic achievement assessed through state tests	✓	✓	-
Oversight and accountability from the Florida DOE	✓	✓	**
Neighborhood school locations	✓	-	-
Buildings meet safety and hurricane standards	✓	-	-
All students accepted regardless of special needs	✓	-	-
All students accepted regardless of gender identity	✓	✓	-
Transportation provided	✓	-	-
Full offering of extracurricular activities	✓	-	-
Full offering of art, music, physical education	✓	-	-
Discipline policies published for public review	✓	-	-
Extra fees assessed	-	✓	✓

✓ = Complies with state requirements

- = Not required to comply with state requirements

** **NOTE:** Public money for vouchers (scholarships) and Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) are managed by a private scholarship funding organization (Step Up for Students) which receives up to 3% of every voucher and ESA awarded. Step Up for Students is among the largest charities in the United States with assets totaling more than \$1B.

References

- <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/>
- <https://www.stepupforstudents.org/scholarships/>
- <https://www.floridapolicy.org/posts/floridas-hidden-voucher-expansion-over-1-billion-from-public-schools-to-fund-private-education>
- <https://lwwfl.org/step-up-for-students-preliminary-investigative-report/>