

SCHOOL CHOICE IN MASSACHUSETTS



TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

- ✓ Free public schools based on your physical address or zone
- ✓ Open enrollment may be available - each school district decides if it allows parents to choose a different public school
- ✓ School districts cannot charge tuition for transfer students



PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

- ✓ Free public schools
- ✓ Must take any student who applies if there is a seat available - including students with disabilities
- ✓ Schools have fixed application deadlines
- ✓ If applications exceed available seats, a lottery is held



PUBLIC MAGNET SCHOOL

- ✓ Free public schools
- ✓ May have entrance exams or performance auditions
- ✓ Schools have fixed application deadlines



PRIVATE SCHOOL

- × No state funding is available for private school tuition
- ✓ Other scholarship options may be available from schools or nonprofits



ONLINE LEARNING

- ✓ Free, full-time online learning options are available
- ✓ Private, tuition-based online options are available
- ✓ Some public school districts have their own online programs



HOMESCHOOL & MICROSCHOOL

- ✓ Independent, parent-driven education
- ✓ Notice of intent to homeschool is required
- ✓ Must follow guidelines set by the local school committee
- ✓ Specific subjects are required
- ✓ May require assessments
- ✓ Homeschooled students may be eligible to participate in sports at the local public school - restrictions apply
- ✓ Microschools - students gathered in small groups to learn are available

