

# SCHOOL CHOICE IN SOUTH CAROLINA



## TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

- ✓ Free public schools based on your physical address or zone
- ✓ Public school districts set their own open enrollment policies - some districts may allow students to transfer to schools other than their zoned school
- ✓ May charge tuition for open enrollment transfers



## 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

- ✓ State-funded accounts that can pay for tuition and other expenses, eligibility is based on household income
- ✓ Money families spend on private schooling counts toward the taxes they owe and can be part of their tax refund for students with disabilities
- ✓ Scholarships funded by donors who receive tax credits are available for student with disabilities



## ONLINE LEARNING

- ✓ Free, full-time online options are available statewide
- ✓ Some public school districts have their own part-time or full-time online programs



## HOMESCHOOL & MICROSCHOOL

- ✓ Independent, parent-driven education
- ✓ Three homeschooling options with varying requirements
- ✓ Homeschooling parents must teach specific subjects
- ✓ Standardized assessments are required for families using the homeschool statute
- ✓ Students may still be eligible to participate in sports or activities at local public schools
- ✓ Microschools - students gathered in small groups to learn are available

