

Educational Options

What's available in Mississippi?

Traditional Public School
Special State School
Magnet School
Charter School
Private School
Homeschool
Virtual School
Scholarship Program

TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

- 855 schools in MS that serve students based on where they Live
- Tax-funded
- Tuition-Free
- Overseen by local school district and school board
- Can request a transfer but must be approved by both school boards

SPECIAL STATE SCHOOL

- 4 Public schools that serve the entire state
 - MS School for the Arts
 - MS School for Math & Science
 - MS School for the Blind
 - MS School for the Deaf
- Focus on certain disciplines or student needs
- Tax-funded and tuition free (may have fees for room & board)

MAGNET SCHOOL

- 26 Public schools with a theme or academic focus
- Tax-funded and tuition free
- Must apply, audition, or opt to attend
- Typically students within the district where located can apply
- Based on available seats or admissions criteria

CHARTER SCHOOL

- 7 Independent public schools
- Tax-funded and tuition free
- Open to students within the district where located or nearby
- C, D, or F rated districts
- Overseen by independent boards
- Seats filled by lottery
- Enrollment must reflect demographics of school district
- Authorized by Mississippi
- Charter Authorizer Board

PRIVATE SCHOOL

- 207 independent schools run by private organizations or individuals
- Typically charge tuition
- State scholarship programs for students with special needs may help with tuition and/or other educational expenses
- May also be virtual schools or provide distance learning through correspondence

HOMESCHOOL

- Home based instruction for students not enrolled full-time in a traditional school
- Not subject to state curriculum or testing requirements
- Must submit certificate of enrollment annually
- May include online programs, homeschool groups, or classes at a traditional school

VIRTUAL SCHOOL

- Online schools
- Students take classes or engage in a full-time K-12 educational program
- Can be public or private
- Available to students in many different educational settings
- MS has no full-time virtual public or charter schools
- Other states offer classes to out-of-state students

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM


- Enable state tax dollars to follow students to a private school setting
- 3 programs
 - Education Scholarship Account (ESA)
 - Dyslexia Therapy Scholarship
 - Speech-Language Therapy Scholarship



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