

The changing public education landscape

In little more than a generation, the face of public education in Florida has changed dramatically. Students who once were simply assigned to a school based on where they lived are now treated to an expanding array of options as public schools customize education to meet the needs of different types of students. In this environment, the lines between public, private, district, charter, traditional and choice are forever blurred. The following enrollment numbers were gathered from **2011-12** state Department of Education data (except as noted):

310,412 — Open Enrollment

Students in 50 of the state's 67 districts can choose school through "open enrollment" plans.

237,152 — Choice and Magnet Programs

Students choose from fundamental schools, career options, academic and special programs.

178,892 — Charter Schools

Students attended 525 private charter schools at an estimated cost of \$1.03-billion.

157,577 — Career and Professional Academies

Students pursue career and professional interests in schools and programs throughout the state (2010-11).

148,120 — Florida Virtual School

Students completed 303,329 online semester courses at a cost of \$134.8-million.

145,551 — PreKindergarten Scholarships

Four-year-olds who attended VPK in private schools at a cost of \$346.8-million.

72,408 — Home Schools

These students are reported to the state as receiving education at home.

46,083 — Dual Enrollment

Students took college-credit classes at all 28 community colleges and some state universities (2010-11).

40,248 — Tax Credit Scholarships

Low-income students attended 1,216 different private schools on scholarships at a cost of \$147.5-million.

24,194 — McKay Scholarships

Students with disabilities attended 1,086 different private schools on scholarships at a cost of \$151-million.

23,909 — Guaranteed School Transfers

Students can choose a different school if they are assigned to one that fails state or federal standards.

12,227 — International Baccalaureate

Students were enrolled in IB programs at 68 different schools.

9,828 — Advanced International Certificate of Education

Students enroll in AICE programs in 11th and 12th grades.

9,189 — Lab Schools

Students were enrolled in six different "laboratory schools" run by universities at a cost of \$37.6 million

8,558 — Fulltime Virtual Instruction

Students completed a fulltime program of virtual instruction.