

Under Wisconsin’s compulsory school attendance law (Wis Stats §118.15), pupils aged 6 through 18 are required to attend school regularly until the pupil graduates or until the end of the school term, quarter, or semester in which the pupil turns 18. Full-time attendance in a public school, private school, tribal school or home-based private educational program satisfies the compulsory school attendance requirement. A pupil may be enrolled in only one of these educational entities: multiple or dual enrollment is not permitted. There may be additional attendance options available; specific options depend on the pupil’s full-time enrollment.

Full-Time Enrollment: Public, Private or Home-Based

| Public School | | | Private School (including Vouchers) or Tribal School | Home-Based Private Educational Program (Homeschooling) |
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| Resident School District | Nonresident School District | Independently Authorized (2r, 2x) Charter School | | |
| <p><u>Conditions and Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled full-time in resident school district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Counted in membership by resident school district for state aid and revenue limits. • Educational program solely controlled by resident school district. | <p><u>Conditions and Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled full-time in nonresident school district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open enrollment: resident district counts in membership, DPI transfers aid to nonresident district. ○ Tuition agreement between districts: resident district counts in membership, pays nonresident district. ○ Parent-paid tuition: neither district counts in membership, parent pays tuition. ○ Inter-district chapter 220: Not open to new students after those approved for the 2015-16 school year. State pays nonresident district. | <p><u>Conditions and Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No statutory restrictions on pupil residency. • See below for full table of independent authorizers and restrictions on school location. • Funded by state. • Educational program solely controlled by charter school as specified in contract with authorizer. • No virtual option. | <p><u>Conditions and Funding</u></p> <p><i>Private School</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled full-time in private school. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parent-paid tuition or other private funding. ○ State voucher program; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State pays private school for eligible students. ➤ Under certain circumstances, private school may charge tuition in addition to voucher for high school pupils. ○ Special Needs Scholarship Program; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ State pays private school for eligible students. | <p><u>Conditions and Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled full-time in home-based private educational program. • No public funding. • Educational program solely controlled by parent or guardian. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational program solely controlled by nonresident school district. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Private school may charge tuition. • Educational program solely controlled by private entity. <p><i>Tribal School</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrolled full-time in tribal school. • Educational program solely controlled by tribal school. | |
| <p><u>Attendance Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance in public school within resident district, including charter school, virtual charter school or program, or alternative school. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Participate in various programs offered in resident school district, such as at-risk, gifted, AP, work-study, alternative school or program, etc. • Curricular modifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parent may request, and school board may approve, curriculum modifications including, but not limited to: modifications of current academic program, programs located in resident school district, | <p><u>Attendance Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonresident pupils have same rights and responsibilities as resident pupils and same attendance options, except with respect to open enrollment pupils taking online courses while not physically attending. • Open enrolled pupils may not take online courses unless the online courses are provided by a virtual charter school or unless the pupil physically attends school in the nonresident district to take the course. • Part-time Open Enrollment: Resident district treated as nonresident district for purpose of taking course. Nonresident district treated as resident district for purpose of payment. | | <p><u>Public School Attendance Options</u></p> <p><i>Resident district</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High school pupil enrolled in private school or tribal school. • May take up to two courses per semester in the pupil's resident school district. • Resident district counts FTE in membership for state aid but not revenue limit. <p><i>Nonresident school district</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only on a parent-paid tuition basis. <p><i>Extra-curricular or co-curricular activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident district may allow private school and tribal school pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities subject to school board policies and WIAA or | <p><u>Public School Attendance Options</u></p> <p><i>Resident or nonresident district</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to pupil enrolled in home-based private educational program in any grade. • May take up to two courses in a resident or nonresident public school district during each semester. • Resident district counts FTE in membership for state aid but not revenue limit. • Nonresident district counts .25 for each course in membership for state aid but not revenue limit. <p><i>Extra-curricular or co-curricular activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident district must allow home-based school pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities on the same basis and to |

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| <p>enrollment in nonsectarian private or tribal school located within resident school district, home-bound study including correspondence courses, tutoring, public educational program outside resident school district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 16-year-old may enroll in program leading to high school graduation. ○ 17-year-old may enroll in program leading to HSED. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Part-time Open Enrollment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pupil enrolled in a WI public school district in a high school grade. ○ May take up to 2 courses at a time in a nonresident public school district. ○ Resident district pays nonresident district. ● Start College Now: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eligible pupil: public school junior or senior. ○ May take post-secondary courses at a WI Technical College. ○ District of full-time attendance pays tuition/fees. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start College Now and Early College Credit Program: Nonresident district considered district of full-time attendance for purposes of payment. | | <p>other member-organization rules.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No membership count or state funding. | <p>the same extent as pupils enrolled in the district, subject to WIAA or other member-organization rules.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No membership count or state funding. |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early College Credit Program:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Eligible pupil: public or private high school grades○ May take post-secondary courses at the UW-System, Wis. tribally-controlled college, or WI private, nonprofit college or university.○ Varying mix of state, parent and district of full-time attendance pays tuition/fees. | | | | |
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Statutory Citations

- Attendance by Pupils Enrolled in a Home-Based Private Educational Program: Wis. Stat. § 118.53
- Attendance by Pupils Enrolled in a Private School or Tribal School: Wis. Stat. § 118.145 (4)
- Charter Schools, including Independently-Authorized Charter Schools and Virtual Charter Schools: Wis. Stat. § 118.40
- Compulsory School Attendance, including Curriculum Modifications: Wis. Stat. §. 118.15
- Definition of a Private School: Wis. Stat. § 118.165
- Definition of Home-Based Private Educational Program: Wis. Stat. § 115.001 (3g)
- Early College Credit Program: Wis. Stat. § 118.55
- Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (Vouchers): Wis. Stat. § 119.23
- Part-Time Open Enrollment: Wis. Stat. § 118.52
- Public School Open Enrollment: Wis. Stat. § 118.51
- Statewide Parental Choice Program (Vouchers), including Racine Parental Choice Program: Wis. Stat. § 118.60
- School Finance, including Membership, Tuition and Special Transfer Program (Chapter 220): Chapter 121 Wis. Stats.

Independent Charter School Authorizers: Independent authorizers and limits, if any, on school location and pupil residency are listed below.

| Charter Authorizer | School Location | Pupil Residency | Number of Charter Schools |
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| City of Milwaukee (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| UW-Milwaukee (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| UW-Parkside (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| Any other UW System campus (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| Milwaukee Area Technical College (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| Gateway Technical College (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| Any other WI Technical College (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |
| Waukesha County Executive (2r) | Waukesha County | Statewide | Unlimited |
| College of Menominee Nation (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | No more than 6 schools between these two authorizers |
| Lac Courte Orielles Ojibwa Community College (2r) | Statewide | Statewide | |
| Office of Educational Opportunity (UW System) (2x) | Statewide | Statewide | Unlimited |