

Choice Scholarship Program

Indiana's Signature Private School Choice Program



OVERVIEW

In 2011, the Indiana General Assembly passed House Enrolled Act 1003, creating the state's voucher program. Indiana's voucher program is one of the state's largest school choice programs with 79,422 participating students in the 2025-26 school year. A school voucher is always less than what the state would pay if the student attended their traditional public school.



STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

- Be an Indiana resident;
- Be at least five years old and less than 22 years old on October 1 of the applicable school year; and
- Have a household income at or below 400% of the Free and Reduced Lunch Program guidelines.
 - However, legislation eliminates the income guidelines beginning with the 2026-27 school year, making the school voucher program universal.

FUNDING

- The school voucher amount is the lesser of:
 - tuition and fees charged at the Choice participating school; or
 - 90% of the per student state funding for the student's school corporation of residence.
- For the 2024-25 school year, the average voucher amount was \$6,536.29. However, the average expense would have been \$7,464.41 for each student if they had attended their traditional public school.
- The state awarded \$497,195,861.37 in school vouchers during the 2024-25 school year.
 - If each of the 76,067 voucher students had attended their district public school instead of a Choice participating school, the state would have spent an additional \$70,599,101.93.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Choice participating schools are subject to accountability measures just like traditional public schools. For example, Choice participating schools:
 - are accredited;
 - administer the state assessments to all students;
 - report data to the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) that is published to the GPS Dashboard;
 - have literacy-focused requirements per Senate Enrolled Act 1-2024.
 - cannot set admission standards for Choice Scholarship students that are different than the standards used for the rest of their students;
 - are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, or national origin; and
 - receive site visits from the IDOE to verify compliance.

Most importantly, Choice participating schools are subject to the ultimate accountability: parents. If parents are unsatisfied with the school, they can take their student and tuition dollars to a different school of their choosing.

ACADEMICS

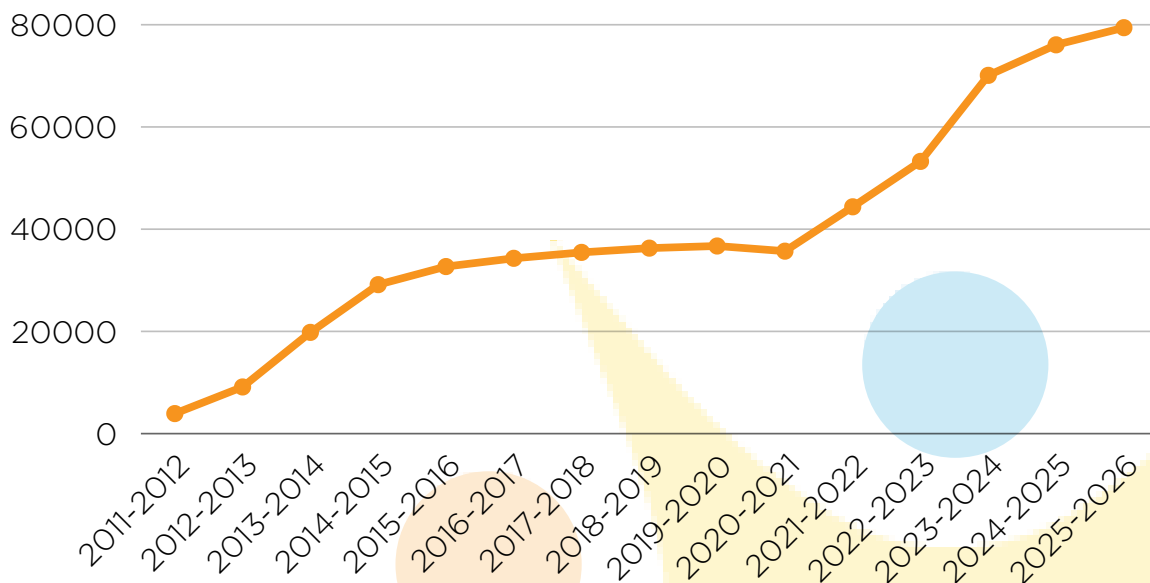
2025 IREAD

- There were 136 Choice participating schools with a 100% passing rate.
- Choice participating schools had a pass rate of 97% compared to the public-school pass rate of 87%.

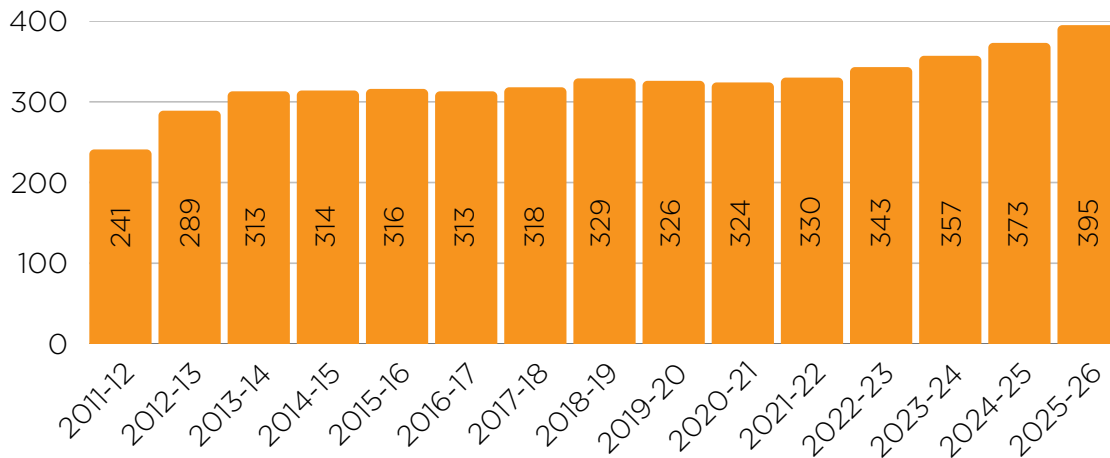
2025 ILEARN:

- The top three schools in the state are Choice participating schools (Eman Schools – 94.1%, St. Mary of-the-Knobs Catholic School – 80.8%, and Saint Wendell School 80.6%.
- Five of the top ten schools are Choice participating schools.
- Twenty of the top 50 schools are Choice participating schools.
- Black, Hispanic, and English Learner students performed best at Choice participating schools.

CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS



CHOICE PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS



ETHNICITY BY SCHOOL TYPE

- The students in the Choice Scholarship program reflect Indiana's demographics.
- 18% of the participants are Hispanic, compared to 13.2% for the state; 9% are Black compared to 12.5% for the state; 9% are multiracial or Asian compared to 8.2% for the state; and 64% are white compared to 66% for the state.
- 54.8% of the participating families in the program earn less than \$100,000 and 23.5% earn less than \$50,000.

