

SCHOOL CHOICE MATTERS

Arizona Policy Report

Introduction

PURPOSE

A combination of well-designed policies give all students access to the broadest range of educational opportunities, including key core policies and helpful policy enhancers. The purpose of this document is to provide insight to how well your state is doing at implementing the Ecosystem of School Choice Policies. This state report summarizes evidence across the seven policy buckets, with each policy component detailed in individual cells.

CORE POLICIES

Key policies expand student opportunities.



[Open Enrollment](#)



[Charter Schools](#)



[Private School Choice](#)



[Homeschooling](#)

POLICY ENHANCERS

Supporting policies enhance those opportunities.



[Part-time Enrollment/Course Access](#)



[Learn Everywhere](#)



[Transportation](#)

CORE POLICIES



Open Enrollment in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
<p>Transfers Between Districts</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Mandatory policy requiring districts to accept all students where capacity exists</p>	<p>Arizona Statute mandates that school district governing boards implement an open enrollment policy without charging tuition (except to nonresident pupils in certain circumstances). Arizona Statute defines open enrollment as a policy that is adopted and implemented by a school district governing board to allow resident transfer pupils to enroll in any school in other school districts in the state, and to allow nonresident pupils to enroll in any school within the district under certain circumstances.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816 Definitions; A.R.S. 15-816.01 Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>
<p>Transfers Within Districts</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Mandatory policy allowing students to transfer schools</p>	<p>Arizona Statute mandates that school district governing boards implement an open enrollment policy without charging tuition (except to nonresident pupils in certain circumstances). Arizona Statute defines open enrollment as a policy adopted and implemented by a school district governing board to allow resident transfer pupils to enroll in any school in the district. Schools must accept pupils throughout the school year as capacity allows.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816 Definitions; A.R.S. 15-816.01(A) Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy.

		<p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>
<p>Year-round Transfer Window</p>	<p>YES Year-round transfer window and once-in always-in provision</p>	<p>Arizona Statute specifies that a school district shall enroll any resident pupil who applies for enrollment to the school district at any time.</p> <p>School districts must give enrollment preference to and reserve capacity for pupils returning to the school from the prior year.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816.01(B)(2) Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>
<p>Tuition-Free Public Schools</p>	<p>YES Prohibition on parent tuition</p>	<p>Arizona Statute mandates that school district governing boards implement an open enrollment policy without charging tuition for the enrollment of any students except nonresident pupils in certain circumstances. Nonresident pupils are those who reside in Arizona but are enrolled in or are seeking enrollment in a school district other than the one in which the pupil resides. The resident district may be charged tuition by a nonresident district in certain circumstances, but the tuition is paid by the state or the resident district, not the parent.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816.01(A) Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort; A.R.S. 15-824(E) Admission of pupils of other school districts; homeless children; tuition charges; definitions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>

<p>School Capacity Transparency</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Districts must report capacity by school and grade level</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires school districts to update on each school’s website the school’s capacity and whether the school is currently accepting open enrollment students by grade level at least once every twelve weeks unless there are no changes for the individual school.</p> <p>If the school has any other separate capacity by specialized program, the same capacity information must be posted by specialized program.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816.01(A) Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>
<p>Transfer Data Transparency</p>	<p>LIMITED</p> <p>Information only collected and/or some data not reported</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires the Department of Education to provide an annual report on the open enrollment participation rate by school district, school, and county. The report must include the number of pupils by student subgroup designation in each school and district that are open enrolled as resident pupils, resident transfer pupils, or nonresident pupils for each school district and the school districts and zip codes from which students are enrolling. The report also must include the number of pupils enrolled in charter schools and the school districts from which those pupils are enrolling. Statute does not require reporting on the number of applications accepted and rejected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 15-816.01 directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules, policies, and guidance for school districts to use while enrolling students under an open enrollment policy. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to open enrollment.</p>
<p>Transparent Appeal Process</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>Arizona Statute is silent on a process for parents to appeal a district’s denial of transfer.</p>

SOURCE CITATIONS

Statutes

[A.R.S. 15-816 Definitions](#)

[A.R.S. 15-816.01 Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort](#)

Other Resources

[Arizona State Board of Education, Open Enrollment Guidance](#)



Charter Schools in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
<p>Multiple Charter Authorizers</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Multiple authorizers</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires applicants to submit applications to a proposed sponsor who may be the state board of education, the state board for charter schools, a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents, a community college district or group of districts.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-183 Charter schools; application; requirements; immunity; exemptions; renewal of application; reprisal; fee; funds; annual reports)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-182 directs the State Board for Charter Schools to adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the charter school purposes prescribed by statute. <p>Administrative Rules do not address which entities may be authorizers.</p>
<p>Charter Appeal Process</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Independent appeals process</p>	<p>Arizona Statute is silent on appeals processes for charter schools, except for charter schools authorized by the State Board for Charter Schools.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-183 Charter schools; application; requirements; immunity; exemptions; renewal of application; reprisal; fee; funds; annual reports)</p> <p>State Board for Charter Schools Arizona Statute directs the State Board for Charter Schools to adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the charter school purposes prescribed by statute.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-182 State board for charter schools; membership; terms; compensation; duties)</p> <p>An applicant that applies for a charter from the State Board for Charter Schools and receives a notice of denial may appeal the Board’s decision under A.R.S. Title 41, Chapter 6, Article 10. The appeal falls under the Office of Administrative Hearings.</p> <p>(R7-5-203 Time Frames for granting or Denying a New Charter)</p>

**Charter
Regulatory
Flexibility**

YES

Automatic exemption from most state and local regulations

Arizona Statute explains that charter schools are exempt from all statutes and rules relating to schools, governing boards, and school districts, except as provided in statute and in the charter.

Statutory exceptions to this blanket exemption do not address teacher certification.

[\(A.R.S. 15-183 Charter schools; application; requirements; immunity; exemptions; renewal of application; reprisal; fee; funds; annual reports\)](#)

However, the Arizona Department of Education specifies that special education instructors must be certified.

[\(Arizona Department of Education, Appropriately Certified and Highly Qualified Comparison\)](#)

Statute does require charter schools do the following:

- Comply with federal, state, and local rules relating to health, safety, civil rights, and insurance.
- Be nonsectarian in all operations including admissions, programs, and employment practices.
- Provide a comprehensive program of instruction for at least one school year from K-12, but emphasis on a specific learning philosophy or style is allowed.
- Design a method to measure pupil progress towards outcomes adopted by the state board of education.
- Be subject to the same financial and electronic data submission requirements as a school district, with exceptions as determined by the authorizer.
- Comply with all federal and state laws relating to the education of children with disabilities in the same manner required of a school district.
- Provide in the charter for a governing body that is responsible for the school’s policy decisions.
- Provide a minimum of 180 instructional days, unless operating on an approved alternative calendar.
- Collect and maintain information about each teacher’s educational and teaching background and experience in a particular academic content subject area.

[\(A.R.S. 15-183\(E\) Charter schools; application; requirements; immunity; exemptions; renewal of application; reprisal; fee; funds; annual reports\)](#)

<p>Equitable Charter Funding</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Students are funded as in a traditional district school</p>	<p>Arizona Statute establishes provisions for charter school financing which establish that a “school district is not financially responsible for any charter school that is sponsored by the state board of education, the state board for charter schools, a university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents, a community college district or a group of community college districts.” Instead, all such charter schools must calculate a base support level in the same way as traditional district schools except that small school weights are determined differently, and the teacher experience index is not used for charter school funding. Equalization assistance for a charter school is determined by adding the base support level and the charter additional assistance. Charter additional assistance is \$2,049.12 per preschool student in a program for children with disabilities and grades 1-8, and \$2,388.21 per student in grades 9-12.</p> <p>The base support level for a charter school or for a school district sponsoring a charter school is required to be reduced by an amount equal to the total amount of monies received by a charter school from a federal or state agency if the federal or state monies are intended for the basic maintenance and operations of the school.</p> <p>Provisions are made for the allocation of daily membership and daily attendance counts if a pupil is enrolled in both a charter school and a public school that is not a charter school.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-185 Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition; A.R.S. 15-947 Revenue control limit; district support level; general budget limit; unrestricted total capital budget limit; district additional assistance limit).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 15-182 directs the State Board for Charter Schools to adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the charter school purposes prescribed by statute. <p>Administrative Rules do not address equitable funding.</p>
<p>Charter Facilities Funding</p>	<p>LIMITED</p> <p>Some or no facilities funding</p>	<p>Equalization Assistance Program</p> <p>The equalization assistance awarded to charter schools is not divided into categories distinguishing maintenance and operations from capital projects. Instead, Equalization Assistance may be used for any of these costs, including for facilities. Equalization assistance is determined by adding the amount of the base support level and charter additional assistance. Additional assistance is \$2,049.12 per K-8 pupil and \$2,388.21 per grade 9-12 pupil.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-185 Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition)</p> <p>Public School Credit Enhancement Program</p> <p>The Arizona Public School Credit Enhancement Program was created to assist achievement district schools in obtaining more favorable financing by guaranteeing the payment of principal and interest on guaranteed</p>

		<p>financing issued by or on behalf of achievement district schools. The program is available to achievement district schools, which are public or charter schools that meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been assigned a letter grade of A, or an equivalent successor classification, pursuant to section 15-241. • Has proven instructional strategies and curricula that demonstrate high academic outcomes. • Has a verifiable enrollment demand, including the placement of prospective pupils on a waiting list. • Has a sound financial plan that contemplates operational costs and future enrollment growth. • Has shown a commitment to provide technical assistance, including business services, curriculum development and teacher training, to an underperforming school in the state. • Meets any other criteria established by the credit enhancement eligibility board. (A.R.S. 41-5841 Achievement District School application) • Arizona Statute 41-5853 delegates rulemaking authority to the Credit Enhancement Eligibility Board. <p>Administrative Rules promulgated by the Credit Enhancement Eligibility Board require applicants for achievement district school status to provide information on poverty indicators of its student population, in addition to enumerated requirements. The rules allow the Board to give preference to proposed guaranteed financings that fund new classrooms or facilities to meet enrollment demand.</p> <p>(Arizona Admin. Rules R7-8-101(G) Achievement School Districts)</p> <p>Bond Financing Charter schools may also apply for bond financing from Industrial Development Authorities.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 35-701(7)(xi) Definitions)</p>
<p>Options for High-Performing Charters</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>High-performing charter schools receive incentives and a favorable regulatory environment</p>	<p>Public School Credit Enhancement Program Only achievement schools are eligible for the Arizona Public School Credit Enhancement Program. Achievement district schools are schools that have applied to be achievement district schools, meet the stated criteria, and are accepted as achievement district schools by the Credit Enhancement Eligibility Board.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 41-5855 Arizona public school credit enhancement program; eligibility; approval of financing; participation fee; A.R.S. 41-5841 Achievement district school application; Arizona Admin. Code R7-8-201 Arizona Public School Credit Enhancement Program)</p> <p>College Credit by Examination Incentive Program Arizona Statute specifies that the Department of Education shall pay an incentive bonus to school districts and</p>

		<p>charter schools for each student in grades nine through twelve who receives a passing score during the previous fiscal year on a qualifying examination identified by the Arizona board of regents. A student who passes a qualifying examination and who is enrolled in a school where 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches generates a bonus of \$450 per passing score on a qualified exam. If less than 50% of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, each passing score generates a bonus of \$300.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-249.06. College credit by examination incentive program; incentive bonuses; report; college credit by examination development fund)</p> <p>Industry Credential Incentive Program State statute directs the Department of Education to pay an incentive award of \$1,000 to school districts, charter schools and career technical education districts for each student demonstrates completion of high school graduation requirements and completes a program resulting in a qualifying certificate, credential, or license that is included on the career technical education industry credentials list published by the Department of Education.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-249.15 Arizona industry credentials incentive program; distributions; report; fund)</p> <p>Regulatory Incentives Arizona Statute directs the State Board for Charter Schools to adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the charter school purposes prescribed by statute.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-182 State board for charter schools; membership; terms; compensation; duties)</p> <p>Administrative Rules promulgated by the State Board for Charter Schools specify that a high-quality charter school may be eligible to apply for a replication charter rather than a new charter, but “high quality charter school” is not defined.</p> <p>(Arizona Admin. Rules R7-5-208 Application for Replication Charter)</p>
<p>Charter Zoning Exemptions</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>The same exemptions are provided</p>	<p>Arizona Statute provides that charter schools are classified the same as traditional public schools for zoning and assessment of zoning fees, site plan fees, and development fees. However, a county or municipality may adopt zoning regulations that prohibit a charter school from operating on property less than an acre in size and located within an existing single family residence zoning district.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-189.01 Charter schools; zoning; development fees)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 15-182 directs the State Board for Charter Schools to adopt rules and policies that the board deems necessary to accomplish the charter school purposes prescribed by statute.

Administrative Rules do not address zoning.

SOURCE CITATIONS

Statutes

[A.R.S. 15-182 State board for charter schools; membership; terms; compensation; duties](#)

[A.R.S. 15-183 Charter schools; application; requirements; immunity; exemptions; renewal of application; reprisal; fee; funds; annual reports](#)

[A.R.S. 15-185 Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition](#)

[A.R.S. 15-249.06. College credit by examination incentive program; incentive bonuses; report; college credit by examination development fund](#)

[A.R.S. 15-249.15 Arizona industry credentials incentive program; distributions; report; fund](#)

[A.R.S. 41-5841 Achievement District School application](#)

Administrative Code

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-8-201 Arizona Public School Credit Enhancement Program](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-5 State Board for Charter Schools](#)

Other Resources

[Arizona State Board for Charter Schools](#)

[National Alliance for Public Charter Schools](#)



Private School Choice in Arizona

POLICY	OVERALL RATING	PROGRAM OVERVIEW
<p>Universal Eligibility</p>	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Scoring is calculated based off % of all students served</i></p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute specifies that an “eligible student” is a resident of the state who (1) is eligible to enroll in a public school in Arizona in a preschool program for children with disabilities, a kindergarten program, or any of grades one through 12, and (2) does not otherwise qualify for an Arizona empowerment scholarship account.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2401.01 Definition of qualified student for Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; expansion)</p> <p>A student enrolled in a school district or charter school is not eligible for an empowerment scholarship account.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(B)(2) Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts; funds)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board of Education to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts. <p>Administrative Rules confirm these eligibility requirements. (Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1501.01 Expanded Qualified Student Definition)</p>
		<p>YES</p> <p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Funding through the Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program is available to all students.</p> <p>Arizona Statute does provide for some restrictions on eligibility. For example, a student that receives ESA money is not eligible for this scholarship.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(B)(3) Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts; funds)</p>

			<p>Similarly, a student simultaneously enrolled in a district or charter school and a qualified school is not eligible for this scholarship. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, familial status, or national origin and that requires personnel having unsupervised contact with students to be fingerprinted.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1603 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute does not require the State Board to promulgate rules for this program.
		<p>LIMITED</p>	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>State statute specifies that only students meeting the following criteria are eligible for the scholarship:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attended a governmental primary or secondary school as a full-time student or attended a preschool program for students with disabilities at a governmental school for at least ninety days of the prior fiscal year and transferred from a governmental school to a qualified school. 2. Enrolled in a qualified school in a kindergarten program or a preschool program that offers services to students with disabilities. 3. Are the dependent of a member of the armed forces of who is stationed in Arizona. 4. Are homeschooled before enrolling in a qualified school. 5. Moved to this state from out of state before enrolling in a qualified school. 6. Participated in an Arizona empowerment scholarship account and did not renew the account or accept the scholarship in order to accept a scholarship or tuition grant. 7. Previously received a Switcher scholarship or Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship if the student continues to attend a qualified school in a subsequent year. <p>A student simultaneously enrolled in a district or charter school and a qualified school is not eligible for this scholarship. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that does not discriminate based on race, color, disability, familial status, or national origin and that requires personnel having unsupervised contact with students to be fingerprinted.</p>

			<p>(A.R.S. 43-1603 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute does not require the State Board to promulgate rules for this program. <p>A student that receives ESA money is not eligible for this scholarship.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(B)(3) Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts; funds)</p>
		<p>LIMITED</p>	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>Arizona Statute specifies that only students whose family income does not exceed 185% of the income limit required to qualify for reduced-price lunches and who meet at least one of the following criteria are eligible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attended a governmental primary or secondary school as a full-time student or attended a preschool program for students with disabilities at a governmental school for at least ninety days of the prior fiscal year and transferred from a governmental school to a qualified school. 2. Enrolled in a qualified school in a kindergarten program or a preschool program that offers services to students with disabilities. 3. Are dependents of a member of the armed forces stationed in Arizona. 4. Are homeschooled before enrolling in a qualified school. 5. Moved to this state from out of state before enrolling in a qualified school. 6. Participated in an Arizona empowerment scholarship account and did not renew it or accept the scholarship to accept a scholarship or tuition grant. 7. Previously received a Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship or an Individual Tax Credit Scholarship if the student continues to attend a qualified school in a subsequent year. <p>(A.R.S. 43-1504 Special provisions; corporate donations for low-income scholarships; rules)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules necessary to administer this scholarship. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to the scholarship.</p>

			<p>Arizona Statute does provide for some restrictions on eligibility. A student that receives ESA money is not eligible for this scholarship.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(B)(3) Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts; funds)</p> <p>Similarly, a student simultaneously enrolled in a district or charter school and a qualified school is not eligible for this scholarship. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that does not discriminate based on race, color, disability, familial status, or national origin and that requires personnel having unsupervised contact with students to be fingerprinted.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1503 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools)</p>
		<p>LIMITED</p>	<p>Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute specifies that a student is eligible for this scholarship if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student has been placed in foster care at any time before the student graduates from high school or obtains a general equivalency diploma, or • The student has been identified as having a disability. <p>(A.R.S. 43-1505 Special provisions; corporate donations for displaced students and students with disabilities; definition)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute does not require the State Board to promulgate rules for this program. <p>Arizona Statute does provide for some restrictions on eligibility. A student that receives ESA money is not eligible for this scholarship.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(B)(3) Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts; funds)</p> <p>Similarly, a student simultaneously enrolled in a district or charter school and a qualified school is not eligible for this scholarship. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that does not discriminate based on race, color, disability, familial status, or national origin and that requires personnel having unsupervised contact with students to be fingerprinted.</p>

			(A.R.S. 43-1503 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations)
Comparable Student Funding	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i></p>	YES	<p>Empowerment Scholarship Accounts</p> <p>Arizona Statute specifies that ESAs are funded at 90% of the state’s base support level and additional assistance that is provided for in statute for a student if that student were attending a charter school.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402(C) Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds)</p>
		LIMITED	<p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>EdChoice notes that the average scholarship size as a percentage of the public school per-student spending is 20%.</p> <p>(EdChoice, The ABCs of School Choice: Arizona (2024 Edition))</p>
		LIMITED	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>EdChoice notes that the average scholarship size as a percentage of the public school per-student spending is 17%.</p> <p>(EdChoice, The ABCs of School Choice: Arizona (2024 Edition))</p>
		LIMITED	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>EdChoice notes that the value as a percentage of the public school per-student spending is 31%.</p> <p>EdChoice also notes that the scholarship limits for 2023-24 were \$6,000 for students in kindergarten, grades 1-8, or a preschool program for students with disabilities and \$7900 for students in grades 9-12.</p> <p>(EdChoice, The ABCs of School Choice: Arizona (2024 Edition))</p>
		LIMITED	<p>Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program</p> <p>Arizona Statute specifies that the scholarship may not exceed the cost of tuition for the student to attend the qualified school or 90% of the amount of state aid that otherwise would be computed for the student, whichever is less.</p>

			<p>(A.R.S. 43-1505 Special provisions; corporate donations for displaced students and students with disabilities; definition)</p>
<p>Uncapped Student Access</p>	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i></p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute does not limit the number of students who can participate, either through a funding or enrollment cap.</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not limit the number of students who can participate, either through a funding or enrollment cap.</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not limit the number of students who can participate, either through a funding or enrollment cap.</p>
		<p>LIMITED</p>	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Under Arizona Statute, funding is limited. In 2021, a school tuition organization could not issue a Low-Income scholarship exceeding \$5,600 for students in kindergarten, grades 1-8, or a preschool program for students with disabilities or a Low-Income scholarship exceeding \$7,500 for students in grades 9-12. In each year after 2021, the scholarship limit increases by \$200.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1504 Special provisions; corporate donations for low-income scholarships; rules)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules necessary to administer this scholarship. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to the scholarship.</p> <p>Arizona Statute does not have an enrollment cap.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1183 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization)</p>

			<p>43-1183. Credit for contributions to school tuition organization</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shall not allow tax credits under this section and section 20-224.06 that exceed in the aggregate a combined total of \$10,000,000 in any fiscal year. Beginning in fiscal year 2007-2008, the aggregate dollar amount of the tax credit cap from the previous fiscal year shall be annually increased by twenty percent. Beginning in fiscal year 2020-2021, the aggregate dollar amount of the tax credit cap from the previous fiscal year shall be increased as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) For fiscal year 2020-2021, by fifteen percent. b) For fiscal year 2021-2022, by ten percent. c) For fiscal year 2022-2023, by five percent. d) For fiscal year 2023-2024 and each fiscal year thereafter, by the greater of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The percentage of the annual increase, if any, in the metropolitan Phoenix consumer price index published by the United States department of labor bureau of labor statistics. (ii) Two percent.
		<p>LIMITED</p>	<p>Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not have an enrollment cap. However, tax credits are capped at an aggregate amount of \$6,000,000 each year.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1184 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students; students with disabilities)</p>

<p>Extended Application Window</p>	<p>YES</p> <p><i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i></p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute directs the Department of Education to accept applications between July 1 and June 30 each year (on a rolling basis). (A.R.S. 15-2403(H) Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; administration; appeals; audit; rules; policy handbook)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts. <p>Administrative Rules confirm this application timeframe. (Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1504 Application and Account Activation)</p> <p>Arizona Statute specifies parents must renew the student’s ESA annually. (A.R.S. 1524-02(F) Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds)</p> <p>Administrative Rules clarify that parents must submit a renewal contract to the Department of Education on or before June 30 or the ESA will be temporarily closed. If the parent submits the signed renewal contract within three academic years, the ESA will be reactivated. If the parent does not submit the signed renewal contract within three academic years, the Department of Education will provide 60-day notice that the ESA will be closed. (Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1506 Contract Renewal)</p>
			<p>YES</p> <p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not establish a timeline for acceptance of applications.</p>
			<p>YES</p> <p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not establish a timeline for acceptance of applications.</p>
			<p>YES</p> <p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute and Administrative Rules do not establish a timeline for acceptance of applications.</p>

			YES	Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not establish a timeline for acceptance of applications.
Student Testing Options	LIMITED Rigid mandates, multiple tests, or no accountability <i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i>		LIMITED	Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute does not require testing for students with ESAs.
			LIMITED	Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address academic testing requirements.
			LIMITED	Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address academic testing requirements.
			LIMITED	Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute and Administrative Rules do not address academic testing requirements.
			LIMITED	Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address academic testing requirements.
School Autonomy	YES <i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i>		YES	Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute specifies that no government agency may exercise control or supervision over any nonpublic school or homeschool. A school accepting ESA payments is not an agent of the state or federal government and shall not be required to alter its creed, practices, admissions policy, or curriculum to accept students whose parents pay fees from an ESA. (A.R.S. 15-2404 State control over nonpublic schools; prohibition; application) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts. Administrative Rules are silent as to private school autonomy.
			LIMITED	Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute is silent on topics related to preserving private school autonomy.

			LIMITED	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute is silent on topics related to preserving private school autonomy.</p>
			LIMITED	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute is silent on topics related to preserving private school autonomy.</p>
			LIMITED	<p>Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute is silent on topics related to preserving private school autonomy.</p>
<p>Accessible School Participation</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>No accreditation requirement</p> <p><i>Scoring is calculated based off program with largest number of students (Empowerment Scholarship Accounts)</i></p>		YES	<p>Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Arizona Statute does not address private school accreditation. Statute allows parents to use ESA funds for, among other expenses, tuition and fees at a qualified school. A qualified school is defined to mean a nongovernmental primary or secondary school or a preschool for pupils with disabilities located in Arizona or, for students residing on an Indian reservation, located in an adjacent state within two miles of the Arizona border.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2401 Definitions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts. <p>Administrative Rules do not address accreditation.</p>
			YES	<p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address private school accreditation. Statute allows certified school tuition organizations only to pay educational scholarships or tuition grants to qualified schools. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that meets certain statutory requirements. A charter school is not a qualified school. Qualified schools are not required under statute to be accredited.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1601 Definitions; A.R.S. 43-1603 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools)</p>

		<p>YES</p>	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address private school accreditation. Statute allows certified school tuition organizations only to pay educational scholarships or tuition grants to qualified schools. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that meets certain statutory requirements. A charter school is not a qualified school. Qualified schools are not required under statute to be accredited.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1601 Definitions; A.R.S. 43-1603 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools)</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address private school accreditation. Certified school tuition organizations may only award scholarships to students who attend a qualified school. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that meets certain statutory requirements. A charter school is not a qualified school. Qualified schools are not required under statute to be accredited.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1501 Definitions; A.R.S. 43-1503 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules necessary to administer this scholarship. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to the scholarship.</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Lexie’s Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute does not address private school accreditation. Certified school tuition organizations may only award scholarships to students who attend a qualified school. A qualified school is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities, nongovernmental primary, or nongovernmental secondary school located in Arizona that meets certain statutory requirements. A charter school is not a qualified school. Qualified schools are not required under statute to be accredited.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1501 Definitions; A.R.S. 43-1503 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations)</p>

ESAs and Parent-Directed Spending

Freedom to Customize

YES

Arizona Statute relating to the Empowerment Scholarship Accounts specifies that parents must use the funds only for the following expenses of the qualified student:

- Tuition or fees at a qualified school
- Textbooks required by a qualified school
- Tutoring or teaching services provided by an individual or facility accredited by a state, regional or national accrediting organization
- Curricula and supplementary materials
- Tuition or fees for a nonpublic online learning program
- Fees for a nationally standardized norm-referenced achievement test, an advanced placement examination or any exams related to college or university admission
- Tuition or fees at an eligible postsecondary institution
- Textbooks required by an eligible postsecondary institution
- Fees to manage the Arizona empowerment scholarship account
- Services provided by a public school, including individual classes and extracurricular programs
- Insurance or surety bond payments
- Uniforms purchased from or through a qualified school
- Transportation
- Computer hardware and technological devices primarily used for an educational purpose
- For children with disabilities, the list is more extensive

[\(A.R.S. 15-2402 Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds\)](#)

- Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts.

Administrative Rules direct the Department of Education to maintain a database of approved and disallowed expenses, establish a process to review expenses, and conduct audits of ESAs to ensure compliance with the allowed expenditures.

Administrative Rules do not prescribe additional rules for how ESA funds may or may not be used.

		(Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1507 Use of Funds)
Freedom to Access	YES	<p>Parents may use ESA funds for tuition and fees at a qualified school, meaning a nongovernmental primary or secondary school or a preschool for pupils with disabilities that is located in Arizona or, for qualified students who reside within the boundaries of an Indian reservation in Arizona, that is located in an adjacent state and that is within two miles of the border of the state in which the qualified student resides, and that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or national origin.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2401 Definitions)</p>
Carry-Over Funding	YES	<p>Arizona Statute requires parents to renew ESAs annually.</p> <p>Statute specifies that parents must use at least a portion of ESA monies allocated annually to provide an education for the student in reading, grammar, math, social studies, and science unless the ESA is allocated monies according to a transfer schedule other than quarterly transfers.</p> <p>Arizona Statute is not explicit that ESA funds carry over year to year. However, statute does note that if a parent fails to renew an ESA for a period of three academic years and the Department of Education closes the ESA, the monies are returned to the state, implying that funds do otherwise carry over year to year.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-2402 Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 15-2403 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules and policies necessary to administer Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts. <p>Administrative Rules confirm the requirements in statute.</p> <p>The Arizona Department of Education website corroborates the notion that while a portion of ESA funds must be spent each year, remaining funds roll over to the following year.</p> <p>(Arizona Department of Education, ESA Guidance)</p>

Tax Credits

<p>Full Tax Credit</p>	<p>YES</p> <p><i>State's largest private school choice program does not qualify as a Tax Credit. Score is based off the largest Tax Credit program. (Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship)</i></p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship</p> <p>Arizona Statute provides for a dollar-for-dollar credit for scholarship donations - tax credits are available for voluntary cash contributions to school tuition organizations up to a dollar limitation.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1089 Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organization)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 43-1089 requires the Department of Revenue to adjust the dollar amount limitations for tax credits each year. <p>The Department of Revenue posts to its website the adjusted maximum Original Individual Income Tax Credit amounts. The adjusted credit amounts for 2024 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single, married filing separately, or head of household: \$731 • Married filing joint: \$1,459 <p>(Arizona Department of Revenue, Credits for Contributions to Certified School Tuition Organizations)</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship</p> <p>Arizona Statute allows an additional dollar-for-dollar tax credit up to amounts specified by the Department of Revenue once an individual meets the maximum donation under the Original Individual Income Tax Credit Scholarship.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1089.03 Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organization)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Statute 43-1089.03 requires the Department of Revenue to adjust the dollar amount limitations for tax credits each year. <p>The Department of Revenue posts to its website the adjusted maximum Switcher Individual Income Tax Credit amounts. The adjusted credit amounts for 2024 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single, married filing separately, or head of household: \$728 • Married filing joint: \$1,451 <p>(Arizona Department of Revenue, Credits for Contributions to Certified School Tuition Organizations)</p>

		<p>YES</p>	<p>Low-Income Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute allows this tax credit for the amount of voluntary cash contributions made by the taxpayer during the taxable year to a school tuition organization (pursuant to A.R.S. 41-1183 and 20-224.06, which allows a credit against the premium tax liability incurred by an insurer for school tuition organization contributions) up to an aggregate dollar limitation. The tax credits are allowed on a first-come, first-served basis. The tax credit cap increases each year by the greater of the percentage of the annual increase in the Phoenix consumer price index and two percent.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1183 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization; A.R.S. 20-224.06 Premium tax credit for contributions to school tuition organization; low-income scholarships)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules necessary to administer this tax credit. Further, statute authorizes the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions to adopt rules necessary to administer the tax credit against insurers' premium tax liabilities. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to the tax credit. The Arizona Department of Revenue states on its website that the Low-Income Corporate Tax Credit Cap for FY2023/24 is \$158,476,605.</p> <p>(Arizona Department of Revenue, Credits for Contributions to Certified School Tuition Organizations)</p>
		<p>YES</p>	<p>Lexie's Law for Disabled and Displaced Students Tax Credit Scholarship Program Arizona Statute allows this dollar-for-dollar tax credit for the amount of voluntary cash contributions made by the taxpayer during the taxable year to a school tuition organization (pursuant to A.R.S. 41-1184 and 20-224.07, which allows a credit against the premium tax liability incurred by an insurer for school tuition organization contributions) up to an aggregate dollar limitation of \$6,000,000. The tax credits are allowed on a first-come, first-served basis.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 43-1184 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students; students with disabilities; A.R.S. 20-224.07 Premium tax credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students and students with disabilities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute authorizes the Department of Revenue to adopt rules necessary to administer this tax credit. Further, statute authorizes the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions to adopt rules necessary to administer the tax credit against insurers' premium tax liabilities. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to the tax credit.</p>

SOURCE CITATIONS

Statutes

[A.R.S. 15-2401.01 Definition of qualified student for Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; expansion](#)

[A.R.S. 15-2402 Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds](#)

[A.R.S. 15-2403 Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; administration; appeals; audit; rules; policy handbook](#)

[A.R.S. 15-2404 State control over nonpublic schools; prohibition; application](#)

[A.R.S. 43-1183 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization](#)

[A.R.S. 43-1184 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students; students with disabilities](#)

[A.R.S. 43-1501 Definitions](#)

[A.R.S. 43-1503 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations](#)

[A.R.S. 43-1504 Special provisions; corporate donations for low-income scholarships; rules](#)

Administrative Code

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1501.01 Expanded Qualified Student Definition](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1504 Application and Account Activation](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1506 Contract Renewal](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R7-2-1507 Use of Funds](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R20-6 Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions - Insurance Division](#)

[Arizona Admin. Code R15-2E Department of Revenue - Income and Withholding Tax Section](#)

Arizona Department of Education

[Empowerment Scholarship Account](#)

[Arizona Department of Education, ESA Guidance](#)

Arizona Department of Revenue

[Credits for Contributions to Certified School Tuition Organizations](#)

Other Resources

[EdChoice, The ABCs of School Choice: Arizona \(2024 Edition\)](#)

[Arizona Department of Revenue: Credits for Contributions to Certified School Tuition Organizations](#)

<p>A.R.S. 43-1505 Special provisions; corporate donations for displaced students and students with disabilities; definition</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1601 Definitions</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1603 Operational requirements for school tuition organizations; notice; qualified schools</p> <p>A.R.S. 15-2401 Definitions</p> <p>A.R.S. 15-2402 Arizona empowerment scholarship accounts; funds</p> <p>A.R.S. 20-224.06 Premium tax credit for contributions to school tuition organization; low-income scholarships</p> <p>A.R.S. 20-224.07 Premium tax credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students and students with disabilities</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1089 Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organization</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1089.03 Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organization</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1183 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization</p> <p>A.R.S. 43-1184 Credit for contributions to school tuition organization; displaced students; students with disabilities</p>			
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Homeschooling in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
<p>Homeschool without Prior Approval</p>	<p>YES No permission required</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires parents of any child between 6 and 16 years of age to enroll the student in a public, private, or charter school or file an affidavit of intent that the child is attending a private school or is being provided with instruction in a homeschool. No permission is required for homeschooling.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-802 School instruction; exceptions; violations; classification; definitions)</p>
<p>No Extra Homeschool Notifications</p>	<p>YES One-time or no notification</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires a one-time notification in the form of an affidavit of intent filed with the county school superintendent stating that the child is being provided with instruction in a homeschool. The affidavit must include the child’s name, date of birth, the current address of the school the child is attending, and the names, telephone numbers and addresses of the persons who currently have custody of the child.</p> <p>The affidavit must be filed within thirty days from the time the child begins to attend the homeschool and is not required thereafter unless homeschool instruction is terminated and then resumed. The person who has custody of the child must notify the county school superintendent within thirty days of the termination of homeschooling that the child is no longer being instructed at a homeschool.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-802 School instruction; exceptions; violations; classification; definitions)</p>
<p>No Certification to Homeschool</p>	<p>YES No certification requirement</p>	<p>Arizona Statute defines homeschool as a nonpublic school conducted primarily by the parent, guardian or other person who has custody of the child or nonpublic instruction provided in the child’s home. State statute does not require a parent to possess a state teacher certification.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-802 School instruction; exceptions; violations; classification; definitions)</p>

<p>Flexible Assessment Options</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Flexible academic accountability</p>	<p>Arizona Statute explicitly notes that homeschooled children are not required to be tested unless a previously homeschooled child enrolls in a kindergarten program or grades 1-12. Arizona statute requires no transcripts, reports, or other assessments or records.</p> <p>(A.R.S. Homeschooled children; testing; prohibition)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute 15-741 authorizes the State Board to adopt rules for the purposes of Title 15, Chapter 7, Article 3: Assessment and Accountability. <p>Administrative rules are silent as to homeschooling assessments.</p>
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SOURCE CITATIONS

Statutes

[A.R.S. 15-745 Homeschooled children; testing; prohibition](#)

[A.R.S. 15-802 School instruction; exceptions; violations; classification; definitions](#)

POLICY ENHANCERS



Part-time Enrollment in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
Resident Course Access	<p>NO</p> <p>No policy</p>	<p>Arizona Statute is silent as to school districts providing nonpublic and homeschool students access to core and elective courses.</p>
Nonresident Course Access	<p>NO</p> <p>No program</p>	<p>Arizona Statute is silent as to school districts providing nonpublic and homeschool students access to courses.</p>
Virtual Course Access	<p>YES</p> <p>The state has one or more fully accessible virtual providers</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires the State Board to select district public schools to be online course providers and state-approved charter authorizers to sponsor charter schools to be online course providers. Statute does not establish a statewide virtual provider. Statute allows part-time enrollment of district school and charter school students in online instruction but is silent regarding homeschool and private school students.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-808 Arizona online instruction; reports; definitions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arizona Statute authorizes the State Board and state-approved charter authorizers to develop standards for the approval of online course providers. <p>Administrative Rules are silent as to a statewide virtual school.</p>

<p>Extracurricular Access</p>	<p>LIMITED</p> <p>Access denied to some resident students, or students must take at least one class in a public school</p>	<p>Arizona Statute requires public schools to provide access to interscholastic activities for homeschooled students. (A.R.S. 15-802.01 Homeschooled children; eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities)</p> <p>Arizona Statute is silent as to access to public school extracurricular activities for students in charter and nonpublic schools.</p>
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SOURCE CITATIONS

<p>Statutes</p> <p>A.R.S. 15-802.01 Homeschooled children; eligibility to participate in interscholastic activities</p> <p>A.R.S. 15-808 Arizona online instruction; reports; definitions</p>	<p>State Department of Education</p> <p>Arizona Online Instruction Program</p>	<p>Other Resources</p> <p>Arizona State Board of Education, Approved Arizona Online Instruction (AOI) Programs (As of March 26, 2024)</p> <p>Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, Approved Arizona Online Instruction Schools (Distance Learning)</p>
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Learn Everywhere in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
Provider Qualification Standard	<p>NO</p> <p>No program</p>	<p>Arizona does not have a Learn Everywhere program.</p>
Course Credit Standard	<p>NO</p> <p>No program</p>	
Core Course Opportunities	<p>NO</p> <p>No program</p>	
Central State List	<p>NO</p> <p>No program</p>	



Transportation in Arizona

POLICY	RATING	POLICY OVERVIEW
<p>Open Enrollment Transit</p>	<p>LIMITED</p> <p>Less than equitable and/or for some students only</p>	<p>Arizona Statute allows but does not require the governing board of the district educating the student to provide transportation for income-eligible students limited to thirty miles each way to and from the school or to and from a pickup point on a regular transportation route or for the total miles traveled each day to an adjacent district. Income-eligible students are those who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.</p> <p>Arizona Statute requires the governing board of the district educating the student to provide transportation to an adjacent district for certain students with disabilities limited to thirty miles each way to and from the school or to and from a pickup point on a regular transportation route or for the total miles traveled each day to an adjacent district. Eligible students are those whose IEP specifies that transportation is required to fulfill the program.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-816.01 Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort)</p>
<p>Fair Transportation Access</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>Charter Schools</p> <p>Arizona Statute allows but does not require a school district that transports or contracts to transport pupils to the Arizona state schools for the deaf and the blind to transport or contract with a charter school to transport sensory impaired pupils during the same fiscal year to a charter school if the parent requests and if the distance from the pupil’s residence within the school district to the charter school is less than the distance from the pupil's residence to the campus of the Arizona state schools for the deaf and the blind.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-185(K) Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition)</p> <p>A charter school may use a portion of its additional assistance funding to provide in lieu of transportation grants to parents for transportation. But note that school districts receive dedicated transportation funding from which they may provide grants to parents in lieu of transportation.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-924 In lieu of transportation grants)</p>

		<p>Nonpublic Students Arizona Statute is silent on transportation of students to private schools.</p>
<p>Vehicle Flexibility</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Arizona Statute explains that a school district or charter school (or an entity contracted with a school district or charter school to provide transportation) may use a motor vehicle that is designed to carry at least eleven and not more than fifteen passengers to transport students to or from home or school on a regularly scheduled basis in accordance with the safety rules adopted by the department of public safety.</p> <p>(A.R.S. 15-925 School transportation; allowable vehicles)</p>

SOURCE CITATIONS

Statutes

[A.R.S. 15-185 Charter schools; financing; civil penalties; transportation; definition](#)

[A.R.S. 15-816.01 Open enrollment policies; preference; selection process; transportation; reporting requirements; public awareness effort](#)

[A.R.S. 15-924 In lieu of transportation grants](#)

[A.R.S. 15-925 School transportation; allowable vehicles](#)

