

Educational Options in Colorado

	Public School	Charter School	Public School at Home	Part-time Public School	Private School	Independent Private Homeschool
Policy	It is the right of the state of Colorado to choose the proper education and training for the children under its care and supervision.	It is the right of the state of Colorado , along with some input from a parental board, to choose the proper education and training for the children under its care and supervision.	It is the right of the state of Colorado to choose the proper education and training for the children under its care and supervision.	It is the right of the state of Colorado to choose the proper education and training for the children under its care and supervision.	It is the right of the private school's board (in some cases, along with the parent) to choose the proper education and training for the children under its care and supervision.	"It is the primary right and obligation of the parent to choose the proper education and training for the children under their care and supervision."**
Parent's Time Required	Parents are asked to help in classrooms plus may need to help child with homework . May also need to deliver and pick up children.	Parents may be required to help in school plus may need to help child with homework . May also need to deliver and pick up children.	Parents act as coach, overseeing student class work according to program schedule. Various amounts of grading and record keeping are also included. May be more class hours than homeschooling.	Varies, depending on number of hours spent at public school. Homeschool teaching and planning time is in addition to public school hours. May also need to deliver and pick up children.	Parents may be asked to help in classroom plus may need to help with homework . May also need to deliver and pick up children.	Teaching time plus planning, grading and recordkeeping. (Depending on curriculum, it may add a few to many hours a week in planning.)
Child's Time Required	6-7 hr per day plus 1 to 4 hr of homework/day	6-7 hr per day plus 1 to 4 hr of homework/day	About 6-7 hr per day plus additional time if needed.	Public school hours plus homework assignments and homeschool hours.	6-7 hr per day plus 1 to 4 hr of homework/day.	Child must receive instructional contact an average of 4 hr/day for 172 days a year.
Control over Schedule	Lowest; government/school board sets all aspects of schedule.	Lowest; government/school board sets all aspects of schedule.	Medium; assignments must be done on time, but parent can decide daily schedule.	Medium low; parent must plan day around public school hours to fit in home teaching time.	Low; private schools have differing policies but it is still set by the school.	Highest; outside of the number of days and hours the child must work, parent is in full control of the schedule.
Costs per Child	School collects at least \$5500 , plus capital construction dollars, for each child from public taxes.	School collects at least \$5500 , plus some capital construction dollars, for each child from public taxes.	School collects at least \$5500 , for each child from public taxes. Families may receive on loan computers, internet access, free material, and/or reimbursement for some expenses.	Amount school gets will vary. If child is in school more than 50% of day, school gets minimum of \$5500 , plus capital construction dollars.	\$1000 - \$10,000 per year , per child, paid by parent.	Average \$400 per year , per child, paid by parent.
Safety of Child	Low; most incidents of violence against school age children have happened in or around public schools.	Low to Medium; most charter schools have fewer incidents of crimes than public schools.	Highest; children are with parents during the day.	Mixed; low while child is at public school , high while at home. (See public school safety.)	Low to Medium; most private schools have fewer incidents of crimes than public schools.	Highest; children are with parents during the day.

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** >From state law "22-33-104.5 Home-based education - legislative declaration - definitions - guidelines. Sec 1"

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Testing / Advancement	The state mandates that CSAP (Colorado Student Assessment Test) is given to each child. Advancement determined by teacher.	The state mandates that CSAP (Colorado Student Assessment Test) is given to each child. Other standardized tests may be added. Advancement determined by teacher.	The state mandates that CSAP (Colorado Student Assessment Test) is given to each child. Other standardized tests may be added. Advancement determined by teacher.	Testing may vary, however, pressure is being applied to make student take CSAP test to be in program.	Testing is subject to each school. Advancement determined by teacher and/or board.	Standardized test given every odd year to satisfy the state. Parent decides the pace of advancement for each child. State requires the child to score at or above the 13th percentile or receive a professional evaluation to indicate progress.
Parental Control over Curriculum	None; school board has great influence, which parents may run for, but school is under government control.	Very low; parents may be part of charter school board to help select curriculum but school is under government control and subject to charter.	Very low; curriculum choice limited to options offered through chosen school.	Medium; parent may be able to select classes for their child of the ones offered. All home curriculum is same as homeschool.	Medium; varies with chosen school. Private school board chooses curriculum.	Highest; parents may choose material as long as certain subjects are covered.
Freedom from Government Control over Curriculum	None; all aspects are controlled by school board, local, state, and federal government.	Low; local, state, and federal governments have full control but allow more input from parents and school board.	Low; curriculum is packaged with full government/school board approval but it may be added to. Individual school districts may change requirements and control.	Mixed; low for classes at the public school, high for classes at home.	High; private schools have a great deal of flexibility in what and how they teach.	Highest; parents have the most freedom from government control when they teach their own child.
Religious Content/ Worldview	No Biblical worldview teaching allowed, however other beliefs are brought in through school material, teachers and other children.	No Biblical worldview teaching allowed, however other beliefs are brought in through school material, teachers and other children.	No Biblical worldview teaching allowed, however other beliefs are brought in through school material. Parents may add their own religious material but may not remove any material in lesson plan.	No Biblical worldview teaching allowed in public school. Other beliefs are brought in through school material, teachers and other children. Parents may add their own religious material.	Varied; depends on the school chosen. The school controls religious teaching.	Greatest freedom; parents may incorporate their own Biblical worldview. Bible may be made center of curriculum.
Family Involvement	Low; parents may be involved in classroom but teacher/school controls involvement. In most cases no other family members are included.	Low; parents may be involved in classroom but teacher/school controls involvement. In most cases no other family members are included.	Medium High; whole family can learn together and some classes can be taught together.	Mixed; depending on number of hours in public school. (See Public School and Independent Private Homeschool boxes.)	Low; parents may be involved in classroom but teacher/school controls involvement. In most cases, no other family members are included.	Highest; classes can be set up for whole family. Older children can help work with younger children and extended family members can be included.

This chart has been provided by the Christian Home Educators of Colorado. www.chec.org **Please see other side**