

# My Florida Schools Frequently Asked Questions from K-12 Families

# What is My Florida Schools, and how can I use it to find educational options for my family?

My Florida Schools is a platform that allows all Florida K-12 schools to list their programs online. Families can use My Florida Schools to search and discover various school options available in their area, including public and charter schools, virtual school options, private school options– including schools with a military focus–religious or secular programs, and day schools. By viewing a school's page, you can learn about unique offerings, ratings, and other helpful information to make the best decision for your child.

### Why has the Florida Department of Education created My Florida Schools?

In 2023, Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law Florida House Bill (HB) 1, expanding school choice for all Florida families. As part of this law, the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) worked collaboratively to create a user-friendly online tool that supports parents in their search for K-12 school options. My Florida Schools stores information about 10,000 K-12 schools across Florida so that parents have access to all the necessary information as they choose a school for their child.

#### How do I sign up to access and explore schools on My Florida Schools?

All schools can be searched and viewed by visiting the My Florida Schools homepage. To explore schools, simply visit <u>https://www.fldoe.org/myfloridaschools/searchk12</u>. If you would like to bookmark your favorite schools or save searches, you will need to create an account. Your free account can be created by entering your email address, choosing a password, and entering some basic information about your child. Once you've created your account, you can log in to view your favorites and edit your searches.

#### How much does it cost to use My Florida Schools to find schools?

My Florida Schools is free for everyone.

#### How will I find the right school for my child through My Florida Schools?

My Florida Schools features advanced search options that allow you to filter schools by location, curriculum type, instructional delivery type, grades served, public or private, and



several other criteria. This helps you find the best school for your family's needs. You can conduct searches with different filter options or simply view all schools in your area.

## What information should I look for when exploring programs?

All children and families are different, and so are their educational needs. My Florida Schools will show you a variety of school options in your area and let you search and filter by the details and elements that are most important to your own family. When you're exploring schools, you can review their curriculum information, ratings, teacher and student statistics, information about school activities, unique offerings, and details about special education services. This information will help you make an informed decision about the schools in your area.

# What if I want to find a private, charter, or military school for my child? What if I want to enroll them part-time or virtually?

My Florida Schools contains information on schools throughout Florida, including public schools, charter schools, virtual school offerings, and private schools, including those that offer military, religious, and other focused programming. You can select these criteria in your search filters.

### Can I update my information on My Florida Schools after signing up?

Yes, you can update details at any time by logging into your account on My Florida Schools. This includes updating your contact information and child's/children's details. You will only be prompted to provide this information if you are requesting a tour.

#### How secure is my child's information?

The Florida Department of Education prioritizes data security. My Florida Schools maintains rigorous data encryption and security protocols. Additionally, the Florida Department of Education complies with federal laws regarding personally identifiable student information. You can learn more about FLDOE's policies and federal laws protecting student and family privacy <a href="https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/3/urlt/03-10ferpafactsheet.pdf">https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/3/urlt/03-10ferpafactsheet.pdf</a>. You will only need to provide personal details if you create an account. You can conduct searches and compare programs without creating an account.



# Where can I get support if I have questions or need help?

If you need assistance or have any questions about using My Florida Schools, you can find helpful videos here <u>https://www.fldoe.org/myfloridaschools/videos.stml</u> or contact us at <u>myfloridaschools@fldoe.org.</u>