

# FAQ

## Education Choice

### What types of education choice programs exist?

<b>Education Savings Account (ESA)</b>	An <b>ESA</b> is parent-controlled savings account in the name of a student funded by the state. Once the money is placed into the account, the monies belong to the parent. Expenditures are limited to approved education related expenses. <b>Nineteen thousand</b> students are served by ESAs currently.
<b>Tax-credit scholarship (TCS)</b>	A <b>TCS</b> is where an individual or corporation donates to a scholarship granting organization (SGO). This is donated directly to a not-for-profit organization and never enters state coffers. Students apply to the SGO and the SGO awards scholarships to the applicants, typically on a first come first serve basis. The donor receives a tax-credit against their state tax liability when filing income taxes.
<b>Individual education tax-credit (IETC)</b>	An <b>IETC</b> is tax-credit for individuals who make education related expenses for their children and dependents. This money never enters state coffers.
<b>Voucher</b>	A <b>voucher</b> is a certificate provided to the school by the parent or guardian with the state paying that voucher value directly to the school.

### How are education choice programs funded?

	Funding Source			Payer		
	State	Local	Private	State/Local	Parent	SGO
<b>Charters</b>	✓	✓		✓		
<b>ESA</b>	✓				✓	
<b>IETC</b>			✓		✓	
<b>TCS</b>			✓			✓
<b>Voucher</b>	✓			✓		

### Does education choice serve low-income and special needs students?

Yes, the majority of school choice programs are specifically designed to serve low-income and special needs students.

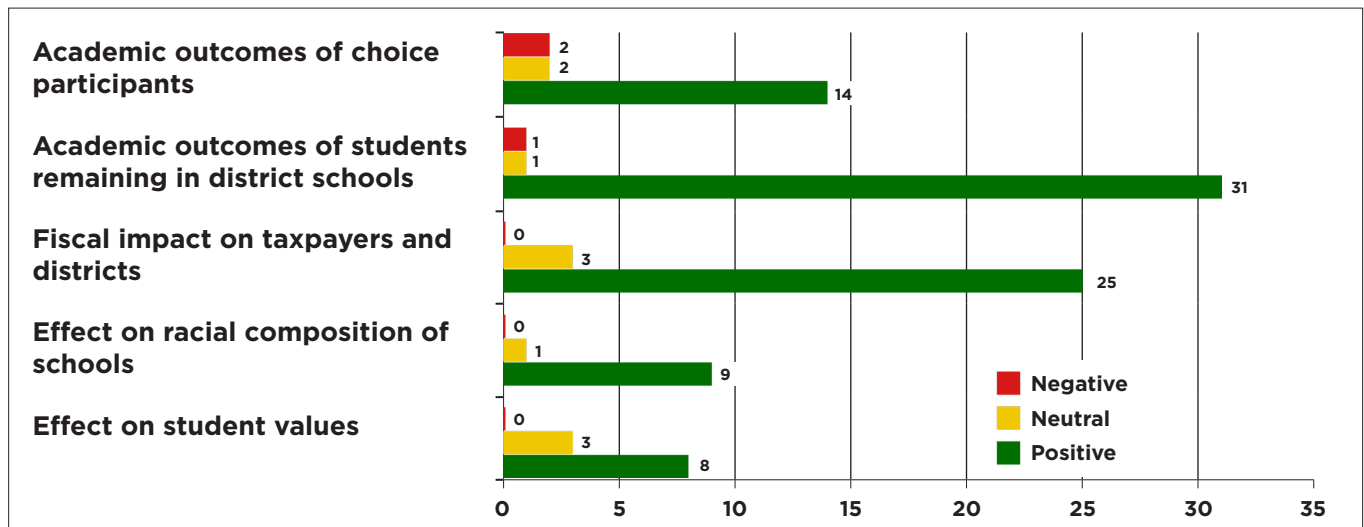
### Do education choice programs support students with disabilities or other special needs?

Yes, there is much evidence to this effect and specialty schools dedicated to services for the disadvantaged (<https://azcharters.org/more-families-choosing-arizona-public-charter-schools/>).

## What are allowable education services under an education choice program?

	ESA	IETC	TCS	Voucher
Tuition at private/public/charter schools	✓	✓	✓	✓
Books/Supplies	✓	✓		
Independent Learning Courses/Certification Programs	✓	✓		
Higher Education Courses	✓	✓		
Tutors	✓	✓		
Standardized Tests/College Entrance Exams	✓	✓		
Medical Therapies	✓			
Transportation	✓			

## What are the effects of education choice on students in choice programs?



<http://bit.ly/schoolchoiceevidence>

- NY voucher study shows 24% increase in African American students enrolling in college, <https://www.heartland.org/news-opinion/news/study-vouchers-boost-african-american-college-enrollment>
- Six of the top 10 *US News and World Report* rankings were charters with 60% of the top 100 being charters or magnet schools, <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/national-rankings>
- Urban Institute study shows increased college enrollment and college graduation rates, <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/effects-florida-tax-credit-scholarship-program-college-enrollment-and-graduation>