

Options *Schools*

BELONG. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE.

MISSION

The Options Charter Schools provide a caring community, quality education, and guidance to those students who seek an alternative to traditional schooling.

ABOUT US

- Founded in 2002 as one of the first five charter schools in the state of Indiana
- Free, public charter schools serving students in grades 6-12, with two brick and mortar campuses in Hamilton County, and a fully web-based, distance education program. Located in Allen County, Fishers, Kokomo and Knightstown, IN, additional programs serve a myriad of students.
- Providing an inclusive environment with a student-to-teacher ratio of 15-to-1 and a high-quality, individualized approach.

CORE VALUES

- Intentionally and purposefully, each student is supported and valued at school.
- Though high expectations are consistent for all, success is defined differently for each student.
- Teachers are most effective when empowered to innovate, create and inspire.

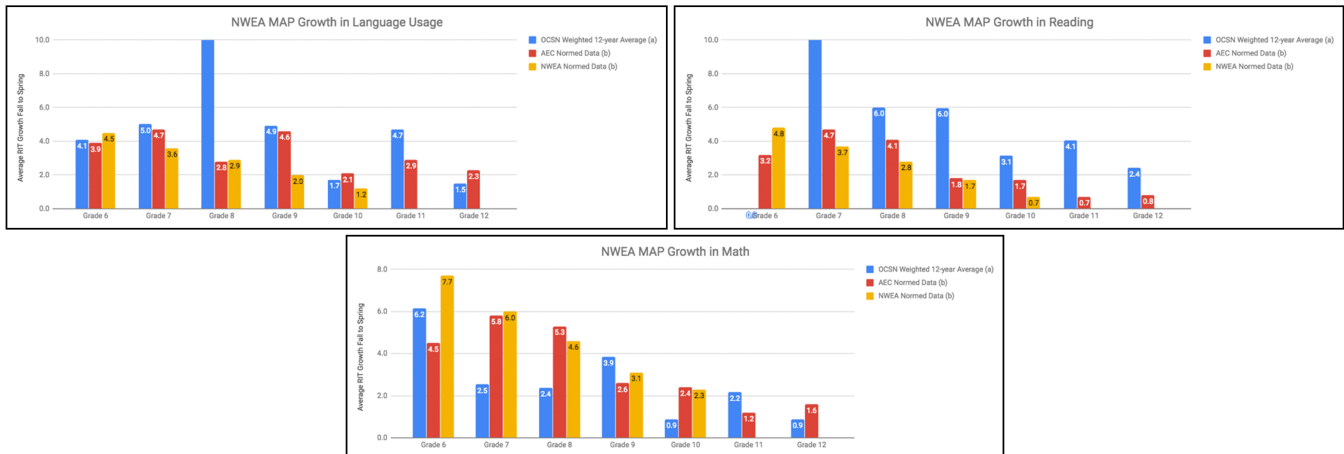
CORE BELIEFS

- We believe that Options Charter Schools provide purposeful, relevant, and challenging educational experiences.
- We believe that Options Charter Schools provide a safe, caring, and healthy environment that promotes freedom of thought and respect for diversity.
- We believe that each student will graduate with the skills, attitude, knowledge, and compassion to be a contributing member of society and a life-long learner.
- We believe that Options Charter Schools have the flexibility to meet the varied needs of their learners through different instructional techniques and settings.
- We believe that Options Charter Schools provide a student-centered environment where every student has an adult advocate.
- We believe that Options Charter Schools appreciate and encourage creativity as an integral part of every student's educational experience.

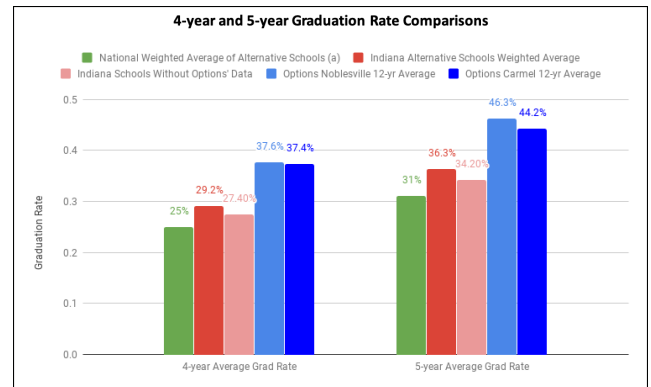
THINGS TO KNOW


- Options offers a number of different programs in order to meet the needs of any student:
 - Full School Day: Monday-Friday (8:30 AM - 3 PM) at Noblesville & Westfield campus
 - Evening Program: Monday-Thursday (3:30 PM - 6:30 PM) at Noblesville & Westfield campus
 - Options Indiana: Fully virtual program for students anywhere in the state of Indiana
 - Options with ABA (Located in Fishers & Kokomo): A blend of ABA therapy & a high-quality education under one roof for students on the autism spectrum
 - Options Columbia City: A hybrid program serving students in Allen County
 - Options @ HYCA: Educating Indiana National Guard Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Cadets
- Between our two brick and mortar campuses & our fully-virtual Options Indiana program, Options serves students from 30% of school corporations across Indiana (134 corporations). Options serves several different types of students, including those in search of smaller class sizes & a smaller school setting, those that were previously homeschooled, those with anxiety issues, those with schedule constraints, those at-risk of not graduating high school and many more types of students.

- When looking at Indiana Department of Education's Graduate Reports dating back to 2015-16, every Option graduate went on to pursue one of four forms of higher education. 27% attended a 4-year college/university, 42% attended a 2-year college/university, 28% attended a vocational/technical school and 3% enlisted in the military.
- Options is competitive in all grades and subjects and consistently outperforms the norms in many areas and outperforms the Alternative Education Consortium (AEC) in many areas. (AEC Normed Data and NWEA Normed Data provided by Momentum Strategy and Research: 2015 Alternative Norms Using NWEA MAP).




- Based on an 12-year average, both Options brick and mortar campuses perform well above averages of the nine Indiana alternative schools and the hundreds of alternative schools nationwide. (Graduation rate data compiled for 874 alternative schools in Colorado, New York City, Ohio and Utah.)







Explore Options!




Employees have 230 combined years of service at Options and 353 combined years of experience in education.




42.5% of employees hold advanced degrees (Master's or Doctorate)




15:1 student to teacher ratio




We serve students from 91 school corporations in Indiana (35% of the state)




28% of employees have been at Options for more than 10 years




37.5% of employees have over 10 years of experience in education




Every senior completes 30 hours of community service and a 10-month, service-learning project



Students attending Options are graduating high school at a higher rate, compared to nine other alternative schools in Indiana and 874 across the nation



Students are highly competitive and often out-perform their peers in annual growth as measured by NWEA and MAP testing



100% of teachers, principals & executive staff members are recognized as highly-qualified, per the Indiana Department of Education



Options Schools

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What are the sizes of each class?

Options understands that students often work best when they have more personal attention. Our average class size is 15 students to one teacher. We cap our enrollment at each campus to allow for a more intimate environment.

Do Options graduates receive an accredited high school diploma like at a traditional high school?

Yes, all Options graduates receive a high school diploma that is accredited by the Indiana Department of Education. Students have the opportunity to choose from the following diploma designations: General, Core 40, Core 40 with Academic Honors (AHD) or Core 40 with Technical Honors (THD).

How do you determine what my student will need to succeed?

Every student at Options will work with their dedicated counselor to develop their own personalized learning or service plan. This plan encompasses not only the academic progress that the student needs to address, but also social-emotional and behavioral patterns that will allow the student to achieve success.

I know Options is a public, charter school, but what does that mean?

Public charter schools are independent, public, and tuition-free schools that are given the freedom to be more innovative, while being held accountable for advancing student achievement. Since 2010, many research studies have found that students in charter schools do better in school than their traditional school peers. For example, one study by the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University found that charter schools do a better job teaching low income students, minority students, and students who are still learning English than traditional schools. Separate studies by the Center on Reinventing Public Education and Mathematica Policy Research have found that charter school students are more likely to graduate from high school, go on to college, stay in college and have higher earnings in early adulthood.

How is alternative education defined?

Alternative Education is designed to meet the needs of students who are not succeeding in the traditional setting and at-risk of not graduating high school.

I heard that Options is a school for students with discipline issues. Is that true?

No it is not, but that is a common misconception about Options. Prior to transforming into Options Charter School in 2002, we served as an additional program for Carmel High School students from 1999 until the Indiana Charter School Law was passed in 2001. Options includes a number of different types of students, including those that were previously homeschooled, those with anxiety issues, those with schedule constraints, along with many additional types of students in search of something different from traditional public school.



Options Schools

ANSWERING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When is the best time to apply to Options?

We have open enrollment throughout the academic year, therefore applications are always welcome and students are able to enroll in school as long as there are openings in their grade level. In the spring prior to the start of a new academic year, a lottery will take place that gives all applicants an equal opportunity to secure a seat at Options. All applications submitted prior to April 1 will be included in the lottery, while applications for the upcoming school year that are submitted on or after April 1 will be placed on the waiting list.

Does every student have the same class schedule?

Options allows students greater flexibility in when students attend classes. Students are required to be in the building anywhere from 3 to 6 hours a day depending upon the structure and requirements of their personalized learning plan. Additionally, Options also offers evening classes at both campuses for students who need more assistance in end of course assessment (ECA) or in certain subjects. This flexible scheduling allows students who are unable to regularly attend classes the chance to customize an educational schedule that works for them.

Is there a lunch program?

Options does not participate in the Federal School Lunch Program, but still provides meal services to students. Students in 11th & 12th grade who manage their time responsibly may leave school grounds for lunch. Students may bring their lunch to school. A refrigerator for student use is available in the student lounge/dining areas. Microwaves and toaster ovens are also available for student use. Parents who want their students to remain on school grounds and/or in the school building during the lunch hour must put the request in writing to an administrator.

Is transportation provided?

There is no bus transportation; parents are expected to provide transportation for their student(s) to and from school. Options will make every effort to assist students and their families to set up carpools.

Can students take foreign language courses?

Yes. While students will not receive instruction from an Options teacher, they will receive instruction from a teacher through the Edmentum Online Learning platform. Edmentum is the platform used by the Options Distance Education Program. Several foreign language courses are available through Edmentum.

Can Options students take courses to receive college credit?

Students in good standing will have the opportunity to enroll in courses at Ivy Tech & J Everett Light Career Center, while still working towards their high school diploma at Options. Select Ivy Tech courses are even taught on-location at an Options campus.



HOW TO APPLY

OptionsSchools.org/enroll-now

If You DO NOT Have an Account

The screenshot shows the 'Registration' page with a header bar containing the logo and a 'Help' link. The main content area is split into two columns. The left column is titled 'Sign In' and contains fields for 'Email Address' and 'Password', a 'Remember me on this computer' checkbox, a green 'Sign In' button, and links for 'Forgot password?' and 'Sign into your account using your cell phone number.'. The right column is titled 'Create Account' and lists benefits: 'Complete forms online', 'Save and return to forms in progress', and 'Print form history', followed by a green 'Create Account' button. A footer at the bottom reads '© 2010 - 2019 PowerSchool, Legal Version: 2.238.1.0'.

The screenshot shows the 'Create an Account' page. It includes instructions: 'Enter the following required information to continue. This account is meant to be created by an adult family member. It is important to create only one account per household so that the system will be able to save and access your information correctly.' Below this is a note: 'Don't Have an Email Address? We suggest that you obtain a free email account online through Google or Yahoo.' The 'Profile' section has input fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', and 'Daytime Phone' (with a note: 'Used to provide support, if requested. Enter entire number, including area code.'). A footer at the bottom reads '© 2010 - 2019 PowerSchool, Legal Version: 2.238.1.0'.

STEP ONE

Click “Create Account” on the righthand side of the page.

STEP TWO

Complete all the necessary fields with accurate information.

The screenshot shows the 'Registration' page with the 'Security Question' section. It has two questions, each with a dropdown menu for the question and a text field for the answer. Below the questions is a checkbox labeled 'To comply with COPPA, I affirm that I am 13 years or older.' and two buttons: a green 'Create Account' button and a blue 'Back to Sign-In' button. A footer at the bottom reads '© 2010 - 2019 PowerSchool, Legal Version: 2.238.1.0'.

The screenshot shows the 'Dashboard' page. It has a header bar with 'Dashboard', 'Help', and a user icon labeled 'AP'. The main content area has a 'Start a New Form' section with a dropdown menu showing 'Application 2018-2019'. To the right is the 'Access Online Recommendations' section with three bullet points: 'If you have started an Application, you may "Continue a Form in Progress" to access your online recommendations through the Application's Introduction page.', 'If you have not started an Application, you must first initiate one under "Start a New Form". You will then be able to begin online recommendations through the Application Introduction page.', and 'If you have already submitted an Application, you may "View a Submitted Form" to access your online recommendations.' A footer at the bottom reads '© 2010 - 2019 PowerSchool, Legal Version: 2.238.1.0'.

STEP THREE

Once your information is added, click “Create Account.”

STEP FOUR

You will then be logged in and ready to start the enrollment process. On the Dashboard page, click on the option to “Start a New Form.” Fill out the application. Once the application is completed, click submit.

When the fully completed application is submitted, the student is added to our waiting list. No seat is guaranteed at this time.



HOW TO APPLY

OptionsSchools.org/enroll-now

If You Already Have an Account

STEP ONE

Sign in to your account with your email and password.

STEP TWO

On the Dashboard page, click on the option to “Start a New Form.” Fill out the application. Once the application is completed, click submit.

When the fully completed application is submitted, the student is added to our waiting list. No seat is guaranteed at this time.

NOTE: Once an application is submitted, someone from the Options Charter Schools team will contact you within 1-2 business days to schedule an informational meeting. The meeting will include a campus tour, a discussion about how Options can serve your student and an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.