

As we enter the holiday season, we want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the school choice supporters and advocates who make our work possible. Your commitment to Wisconsin's families continues to open doors and expand opportunities in every corner of the state. SCW is thankful for you!

This month, we continue to celebrate the record number of over 60,000 students now participating in one of Wisconsin's four parental choice programs. This powerful milestone is more than a statistic; it is a reminder that education is not one-size-fitsall, and that families thrive when they can choose the learning environment that fits them best.

As we celebrate, we remain realistically aware of what the future holds. Each year, opponents question the validity of these programs, and the upcoming elections place them at even

greater risk. SCW takes these threats seriously and has already begun efforts to educate audiences on the imminence of these threats. In the meantime, we want to shine light on why our mission is more important than ever and offer supporters a way to make a meaningful impact right now.

We are excited to launch our **Giving Week campaign** early next month. We aim to highlight the remarkable growth of Wisconsin's choice programs, the profound impact they have on students, schools, and communities, and SCW's commitment to standing side-by-side with families to protect their options. Be sure to follow us on social media to hear firsthand stories from families and schools, see how choice is changing lives, and learn more about how SCW works to educate and empower communities. We are grateful to have you with us and motivated by what lies ahead.

We appreciate your support

Support our mission to sustain vibrant, quality options in K-12 education in Wisconsin! Click the button to donate today.

DONATE







WPCP Changes for 2026-27 Enrollment

What's happening? Previously, state law mandated that no more than a certain percentage of student membership of a public school district could participate in the WPCP. Beginning in 2026, this mandate will no longer be in effect, meaning more Wisconsin families will have the opportunity to enroll at a private school of their choice through the parental choice programs!

How can SCW help? The enrollment cap lift comes with many changes for schools' enrollment processes. We are excited to announce our upcoming virtual training series to guide schools in feeling more prepared for the 2026-27 enrollment period. These webinars are offered to dues-paying members of SCWA.

REGISTER TODAY!

OVERVIEW OF WPCP CHANGES FOR 2026

Learn more about managing multiple application periods, re-enrolling current families, and completing your school's Intent to Participate (ITP). Participants will also receive updated informational enrollment materials to share with families.

Upcoming sessions:

Thursday, December 11 from 10-11:30am Click to Register Tuesday, December 16 from 1:30-3pm Click to Register

LOTTERY/RANDOM SELECTION

Clarify procedures for a school-run lottery/random selection process now that DPI will no longer run the lottery.

Upcoming sessions:

Thursday, January 15 from 10-11:30am and 2-3:30pm (Registration links coming soon)

LIVE HELP DESK

Members of the SCW team will answer questions regarding application processing once the February enrollment period starts and navigating the turnaround for subsequent enrollment periods.

Upcoming sessions:

Tuesday, February 10 from 1-2pm, Tuesday, February 24 from 1-2pm (Registration links coming soon)

Save the Date

-National School **Choice Week 2026**

When: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 from 12:00 - 1:00pm

Where: Wisconsin State Capitol Rotunda

What: Join us for a rally in the Capitol to share the positive impact of school choice and help us protect the promise of educational freedom for every family. Click here to share your interest in attending the event.





This month, SCWA launched a new communications series to inform audiences of legislative threats and pertinent updates regarding the choice programs. Here are a few highlights from this month's alerts:

- A bill eliminating virtual choice options: Senate Bill 602 would prohibit virtual schools from participating in parent choice programs. Virtual schools are a fast-growing sector of Wisconsin education, and eliminating this option altogether would especially impact families in small or rural communities.
- A bill altering income verification requirements: Senate Bill 496 would require annual income verification for each student receiving a voucher, forcing a student whose family's income increases (however modestly) to become ineligible for the program.
- Autonomy wins & threats: SCWA successfully led efforts in removing private schools from Assembly Bill 615, which would force schools to implement DPIregulated math curriculum and instructional practices. Educational autonomy remains a cornerstone in the success of the state's choice programs.

Read more about SCWA's stance on autonomy here.



