



# New York

## Overall Rank

#43

New York ranks #43 in overall education freedom. The state ranks in the bottom 10 in education choice and transparency.

## Education Choice Rank

#49

New York ranks 49th for **education choice**. New York could do much more to expand education choice. New York could improve its ranking by enacting a K-12 education savings account (ESA) policy, making it easier for more charter schools to open and operate, removing excessive regulations on homeschool families, and giving families more choices among traditional public schools beyond their assigned school.

## Transparency Rank

#44

New York ranks 44th in **academic transparency**. New York lawmakers have not adopted proposals to increase academic transparency, create a parent bill of rights, or that reject the prejudice caused by the application of critical race theory in schools.

## Teacher Freedom Rank

#23

New York ranks 23rd for **teacher freedom**. Just 13 percent of teachers in the state are alternatively certified, and the Empire State does not have full reciprocity of teacher licensure with other states. Educators in New York are required to pass the Praxis test, a teacher certification exam administered by the Educational Testing Service. Two-thirds of the state’s school districts with more than 15,000 students employ “chief diversity officers.” The state does not use Common Core-aligned tests. New York can improve its teacher freedom score by providing aspiring teachers pathways into the K-12 classroom beyond university-based colleges of education or by ending teacher certification requirements altogether. The state should eliminate the Praxis test requirement and allow full reciprocity of teacher licensure with other states. New York should stop the growth in the number of non-teaching staff hires, including chief diversity officers.

## Return on Investment Rank

#32

New York ranks 32nd in **return on investment (ROI)** for education spending. New York spends the second-most per pupil among states, spending \$25,766 in cost-of-living-adjusted terms annually. New York ranks 32nd in its combined fourth-grade and eighth-grade math and reading average NAEP score. The Empire State employs 3.02 teachers for every non-teacher in its public schools. New York’s unfunded teacher pension liability represents 2.1 percent of its state GDP. New York can improve its ROI ranking by reducing per-pupil spending and improving academic outcomes on the NAEP.

### New York: One-Year Rank Changes (2023–2024)

OVERALL	EDUCATION CHOICE	TRANSPARENCY	TEACHER FREEDOM	RETURN ON INVESTMENT
▲ 5	0	0	▲ 1	▲ 8