Private school vouchers — whether disguised as a scholarship, a tuition tax credit, or an education savings account — primarily fund religious schools. This violates the fundamental principle that taxpayer funds should never pay for religious education.

Americans United fights to oppose private school vouchers because they are a threat to public education and religious freedom.

VOUCHERS UNDERMINE THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Private school vouchers — whether disguised as a scholarship, a tuition tax credit, or an education savings account — primarily fund religious schools. This violates the fundamental principle that taxpayer funds should never pay for religious education.
Private school vouchers —whether disguised as a scholarship, a tuition tax credit, or an education savings account— primarily fund religious schools. This violates the fundamental principle that taxpayer funds should never pay for religious education.
Learn more about our work on vouchers and what you can do to help at www.au.org/vouchers.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Washington, DC
202-466-3234
www.au.org

More problems with vouchers:

- **Vouchers don’t improve educational outcomes.** Study after study shows that the academic opportunities and achievement of students who use vouchers do not improve, and in some cases, these students actually do worse than their public school peers.

- **Vouchers divert scarce resources away from public schools.** Vouchers divert desperately needed resources away from the public school system to fund the education of a few select students and as a result, harm the public schools.

- **Voucher programs are plagued by a lack of accountability and oversight.** Most voucher plans do not require participating private schools to adequately report data, appropriately test students or hire certified teachers. This fails our students and is a poor use of taxpayer dollars.

- **Voucher schools can teach troubling and even debunked curriculum.** Voucher programs usually lack any standards for curriculum. That means your taxpayer dollars might pay for the teaching of creationism, anti-women and anti-LGBT views or fabricated versions of American history.

- **Voucher programs do not promote “choice” for parents and students.** Vouchers only give a “choice” to private schools, which, despite taking taxpayer dollars and in contrast to public schools, can pick and choose among students they wish to admit.

- **Vouchers fund schools that discriminate.** Most private religious schools don’t provide the same civil rights protections that public schools do, including protections against discrimination on the basis of religion, gender and disability.