

BIDEN VS. SANDERS ON EDUCATION

As the Democratic presidential field narrows to two leading candidates, their positions on education are coming into focus. Here is a side-by-side of Biden's and Sanders' education stances.

Joe Biden

Bernie Sanders

School Choice

End federal funding allocated toward for-profit charter schools and increase accountability for all charter schools. Ban for-profit charter schools, place a moratorium on public charter schools pending an audit, increase accountability, and increase magnet school funding to \$1 billion.

Teacher Recruitment & Retention

Invest in teacher mentoring, leadership and additional education opportunities, expand and simplify the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, and work with HBCUs to recruit teachers of color.

Set a minimum teacher salary of \$60,000, triple the tax deduction teachers get for spending their own money on classroom supplies, expand teacher training opportunities, recruit more teachers from HBCUs, minority-serving institutions, and tribal colleges, and recruit more special education teachers.

Health & Mental Health

health professionals in schools and provide wraparound support for an additional 300,000 students and families.

Double the number of health and mental

Provide universal school meals and ensure immigrant children are free from harassment and surveillance at school.

Early Childhood

Work with states to offer pre-K for all 3- and 4year-olds and double funding for home visits. Provide universal pre-K starting at age 3.

Title I

Triple Title I funding for disadvantaged students, raising teacher salaries, closing funding disparities among schools and districts, ensuring access to pre-K, and helping districts create rigorous coursework.

Triple Title I funding for disadvantaged students.

College Affordability

Expand and simplify the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, make public colleges and universities tuition-free for families making \$125,000 or less, simplify the student loan income-based repayment process, and double the maximum value of Pell grants.

Make all undergraduate public colleges and universities tuition-free, cancel all higher education debt, expand Pell grants, and ensure states cover all costs of college entrance exams.

Standardized Testing

Ban standardized testing.

End high-stakes testing systems where students are taught to tests that ignore education concepts like social-emotional learning and that restrict teachers from drawing on their experience.

