



# OFFICE OF NON-PUBLIC EDUCATION (ONPE)

Office of Innovation and Improvement  
U.S. Department of Education



*Liaison to the non-public school community for the U.S. Department of Education*

## ***ONPE Mission and Activities***

*ONPE fosters maximum participation of non-public school students and teachers in federal education programs and initiatives by:*

- Representing the U.S. Department of Education to the non-public school community;
- Offering advice and guidance within the Department on all matters affecting non-public education;
- Communicating with national, state and local education agencies and associations on non-public education topics;
- Communicating the interests and concerns of the non-public school community to the Department; and
- Providing parents with information regarding educational options for their children.

## ***ONPE Services and Resources***

- Technical assistance
- Presentations at conferences and workshops
- Brochures and publications
- Listserv messages
- Web site:  
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/index.html>



# Statistics on Non-Public Education in the United States

- About 5.12 million students are in private schools, approximately 10 percent of all U.S. elementary and secondary school students (2003-04).
- Over 28,000 schools are private, approximately 23 percent of all U.S. schools (2003-04).
- About 82 percent of private school students attend religious schools, and 18 percent attend nonsectarian schools (2003-04).
- About 76 percent of private schools are religiously affiliated, and 24 percent are nonsectarian (2003-04).
- Tuition averages about \$4,300 for elementary schools, \$10,600 for secondary schools and \$6,900 for combined schools (2003-2004).
- About 1.1 million students were homeschooled in spring 2003, approximately 2.2 percent of U.S. students ages 5–17, with a grade equivalent of kindergarten–grade 12.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2003-2004 Private School Universe Survey* (statistics on private schools and students); Schools and Staffing Survey, 2003-2004 (statistics on private school tuition); *Homeschooling in the United States: 2003* (statistics on homeschooled students).

## How to Contact ONPE

### Mailing Address:

Office of Non-Public Education  
Office of Innovation and Improvement  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave. S.W.

Washington, DC 20202-5940

Phone: (202) 401-1365

Fax: (202) 401-1368

E-mail: [OIINon-PublicEducation@ed.gov](mailto:OIINon-PublicEducation@ed.gov)

### Web site:

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oi/nonpublic/index.html>

## Join the ONPE Listserv

The ONPE Listserv is a free subscription service providing information on K–12 education issues affecting the non-public school community. To subscribe, visit the ONPE Web site.

