

Finding free boarding schools can be challenging, as such institutions are limited. However, here are some options that offer free or low-cost programs:

### The SEED School of Washington, D.C.

- **Location:** Washington, D.C.
- **Description:** The nation's first public, college-preparatory, tuition-free boarding school, serving students in grades 6–12.
- **Eligibility:** Open to Washington, D.C. residents; admission is determined through a lottery system.
- **Website:** <https://www.seedschooldc.org/>

### The SEED School of Maryland

- **Location:** Baltimore, Maryland
- **Description:** A public, college-preparatory boarding school offering a tuition-free education to students in grades 6–12.
- **Eligibility:** Open to Maryland residents; admission is determined through a lottery system.
- **Website:** <https://www.seedschoolmd.org/>

### Commonwealth Challenge Youth Academy (Virginia)

- **Description:** A free program funded by federal and state governments, providing tuition, room and board, uniforms, and educational access. There is a minimal requirement for personal items that candidates must bring upon reporting.
- **Website:** <https://www.vachallenge.org/>

### Milton Hershey School

- **Location:** Hershey, Pennsylvania
- **Description:** A private coeducational boarding school providing free education, housing, meals, and healthcare to children from low-income families.
- **Eligibility:** Children aged 4–15 from families with income below twice the federal poverty level; applicants must meet academic and behavioral criteria.
- **Website:** <https://www.mhskids.org/>

### Maine School of Science and Mathematics

- **Location:** Limestone, Maine
- **Description:** A public, tuition-free, co-educational boarding school for students in grades 9–12, focusing on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.
- **Eligibility:** Open to Maine residents; out-of-state students may apply but are subject to tuition fees.

- **Website:** <https://www.mssm.org/>

### Mississippi School of the Arts

- **Location:** Brookhaven, Mississippi
- **Description:** A public, residential high school offering advanced programs in visual arts, vocal music, literary arts, dance, and theater for 11th and 12th-grade students.
- **Eligibility:** Open to Mississippi residents through a competitive application process.
- **Website:** <https://www.msabrookhaven.org/>

### Conserve School

- **Location:** Land O' Lakes, Wisconsin
- **Description:** A semester-long environmental stewardship and outdoor education program for high school juniors.
- **Eligibility:** Open to high school juniors; offers significant financial aid to cover costs, making it accessible to students from various financial backgrounds.
- **Website:** <https://www.conserveschool.org/>

### Free Military Schools

- **Description:** Several states offer free military schools that are part of the public school system. These institutions can provide structure and discipline beneficial for troubled teens.
- **Website:** <https://militaryschoolusa.com/free-military-schools/>

### U.S. Service Academies

- **Description:** Federal institutions providing a tuition-free education in exchange for military service commitment upon graduation.
- **Examples:**
  - United States Military Academy (West Point)**
    1. **Location:** West Point, New York
    2. **Website:** <https://www.westpoint.edu/>
  - United States Naval Academy**
    1. **Location:** Annapolis, Maryland
    2. **Website:** <https://www.usna.edu/>
  - United States Air Force Academy**
    1. **Location:** Colorado Springs, Colorado
    2. **Website:** <https://www.usafa.af.mil/>
  - United States Coast Guard Academy**
    1. **Location:** New London, Connecticut
    2. **Website:** <https://www.uscga.edu/>
  - United States Merchant Marine Academy**
    1. **Location:** Kings Point, New York
    2. **Website:** <https://www.usmma.edu/>

Additionally, resources like Rescue Youth provide updated lists of free and low-cost boarding schools and programs for troubled teens. They offer assistance in finding suitable programs based on individual needs.

- **Rescue Youth Programs:**

- <https://www.rescueyouth.com/free-low-cost-programs-troubled-teens/>

Please note that admission to these institutions is competitive, and each has specific eligibility criteria and application processes. It's essential to research each school thoroughly and reach out to their admissions offices for detailed information.