

Questions for Candidates

The following information and questions are intended solely for educational purposes and to help you discuss important issues with candidates for elected office. The information contained herein and the proposed questions do not, and should not be interpreted to, favor or oppose one candidate or political party over another.

Use these questions, or ask your own, as the successful candidates are only a short time away from engaging in a legislative debate that will impact Dartmouth Health and your community. Remember, this is entirely voluntary on your part.



Federal Office

Dartmouth Health has been at the front line of the COVID-19 response in New Hampshire and the region. The pandemic has greatly impacted our fiscal health, care delivery, and the communities we serve.

- What steps will you take to assist with the fiscal recovery of hospitals in New Hampshire?
- How will you ensure a robust supply chain of medical supplies?
- What waivers and flexibilities that have been put in place by CMS during the pandemic would you support making permanent?

Many of Dartmouth Health's patients rely on Medicare as their source of health insurance. The 2022 Medicare Board of Trustees Annual Report predicts that the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund will be unable to fulfill its commitments starting in 2028. In addition, CMS has proposed annual Medicare payment rates that do not keep pace with medical inflation.

- If you are elected to the federal office you are seeking, what will you do to ensure that Medicare is available and that all seniors will be able to access the medical care they need?

Researchers at Dartmouth Health are proud to be recipients of many federally supported research grant programs including from the National Institute of Health, the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

- Will you be an active champion at the federal level to ensure that there is robust federal funding available for medical research?

New Hampshire

As we continue to navigate the pandemic and work to resume our lives, we are still experiencing the constraints that COVID-19 either highlighted or created. New Hampshire is experiencing significant housing constraints, childcare limitations, and staffing shortages in most industries. How would you support New Hampshire's workforce?

Concurrently, people struggling with mental health and/or substance use disorders have been at risk of falling into the shadows cast by COVID-19.

- What would you do differently to provide necessary services for people experiencing mental health and/or substance use disorders?
- What aspects of these systems would you focus on resourcing and/or changing?

New Hampshire expanded Medicaid access in 2014. Medicaid Expansion was reauthorized in 2018 for an additional five years. Next year, the NH Legislature needs to reauthorize Medicaid Expansion to ensure more than 50,000 Granite Staters do not lose access to health coverage.

- Do you support reauthorizing Medicaid Expansion?
- How would you propose funding the 10% state share?

Vermont

COVID-19 has illuminated inequities in health care. For example, people of color have tested positive for COVID-19 at a disproportionately higher rate.

- What plans do you have to address inequities in health care?
- How will you work to reduce and/or eliminate barriers to accessing health care for at-risk populations?

Vermont, like many parts of the country, faces workforce challenges in healthcare, as well as other sectors.

- How will you work to attract and retain young professionals and their families to Vermont?