



Be a Public Health Voter!

Iowa's new legislative maps mean that there are many new candidates vying for open and newly contested seats. There are lots of ways to find out where a candidate stands on public health issues. You can attend community events, debates, candidate coffees, or write them letters. They want to serve you, so ask them how they will support public health in Iowa!

The following questions are adapted from the 2022 Iowa Coalition for State Science Questionnaire¹ and are an excellent start for your conversations with candidates.

- What is your plan for addressing the current challenges of the public health and healthcare workforce crisis?
- In your opinion, how should public health work be prioritized in Iowa?
- In 1866, Iowa's Local Health Law gave local boards of health the authority to establish regulations for public health and safety. What is your position on local control of public health matters?
- Preventing disease through immunization is one of the greatest achievements of public health, yet today vaccine hesitancy has been named one of the top ten threats to health. How would you describe your position on vaccines and school vaccination mandates?
- Lately, public health has taken a larger presence in the news. How would you describe your knowledge of public health beyond COVID-19?
- As a legislator, what would you do to strengthen Iowa's public health infrastructure and ensure all Iowans have equitable opportunities to make healthy choices?

¹ Iowa Coalition for State Science members include Science Iowa, Connecting Science to Society (UI), and Advocating Science Policy in Research and Education (ASPIRE @ ISU)