



Health in All Priorities

Click on a priority to view a one-pager with sample talking points, state policy options, resources, and evidence.

If your priority is:	How it relates to health	How to make the case	Applicable resources and policy tools	State agencies that can collaborate on this issue	For more information
<p>Education</p>	<p>Long-term, high-quality education is linked to better life-long health and healthier lifestyles, which can lower state health care costs.</p> <p>Schools can lay the foundations for a healthy life.</p> <p>Health is critical for learning and success.</p>	<p>Evidence suggests that more education is associated with better health outcomes, which can translate into lower costs for state Medicaid budgets and lower commercial insurance premiums for state employees and others.</p>	<p>Early child development strategic plans</p> <p>Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plans</p> <p>Telehealth and telemental health services</p> <p>State support for school-based health centers</p> <p>Medicaid payment for school-based services</p>	<p>State superintendent or commissioner</p> <p>Medicaid and education liaison</p> <p>Homeless education liaison</p>	<p>CityHealth Universal Pre-K</p> <p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Health Impact in Five Years Interventions (HI-5)</p>
<p>Jobs</p>	<p>A healthy workforce supports a thriving economy. By investing in healthy workplaces and communities, employers can lower health care costs, improve safety, improve worker productivity, and retain a high performing workforce.</p> <p>People who are healthy are more likely to be able to find and hold jobs.</p>	<p>People who are healthy are more likely to find and hold jobs and pay state taxes.</p>	<p>-State economic development agencies produce strategic plans that could align with State Health Improvement Plans</p> <p>-State agencies also can weave health into federal initiatives like Opportunity Zones and the Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act</p>	<p>Departments of economic or community development or an economic development corporation</p> <p>Department of labor</p> <p>Vocational Rehabilitation department</p>	<p>NASHP Evidence-Based Supported Employment and Medicaid</p> <p>Transitional Jobs, What Works for Health, Wisconsin</p>

<p><u>Opioids</u></p>	<p>Opioid misuse, overdose, and deaths are preventable, yet nationwide more than 115 people die daily from overdosing.</p> <p>The opioid epidemic has social and financial implications for states, including spending on health care, social services, education, and criminal justice.</p> <p>Proven ways to prevent opioid overdose deaths include improving opioid prescribing, reducing exposure to opioids, preventing misuse, and treating opioid use disorder.</p>	<p>The opioid epidemic has social and financial implications for states, including spending on health care, social services, education, and criminal justice.</p>	<p>State prescription drug monitoring programs</p> <p>Health providers licensure authority</p> <p>Public safety infrastructure</p>	<p>Office of substance use services</p> <p>Department of behavioral health</p> <p>Medicaid</p> <p>Public health</p> <p>Licensing</p> <p>Justice</p> <p>Office of attorneys general</p>	<p>US Dept. of Health and Human Services' Five-Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis</p> <p>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Opioid overdose prevention toolkit</p>
<p><u>Budget</u></p>	<p>Governors can ensure all agencies row in the same direction to help all residents live healthy, safe, and productive lives.</p> <p>People who are healthy are more likely to be able to find and hold jobs and pay state taxes.</p> <p>Helping people become and stay healthy can save state Medicaid programs money and stabilize commercial premiums.</p>	<p>People who are healthy are more likely to be able to find and hold jobs and pay state taxes</p>	<p>The state budget process</p>	<p>Governor's office</p> <p>Department of finance</p> <p>Office of management and budget/state budget office</p> <p>Agency heads</p>	<p>National Council of State Legislators (NCSL), State Budget Conditions</p> <p>National Assoc. of State Budget Officers (NASBO), Budget Processes in the States</p>

<p><u>Taxation</u></p>	<p>State earned-income tax credits help improve the health of working people and their children, and help single mothers to return to work.</p> <p>States can hold nonprofit hospitals accountable for their tax exemptions by requiring them to invest in meaningful community health improvement projects.</p> <p>States can tax unhealthy behaviors, such as tobacco.</p> <p>State taxes can incentivize cleaner air, energy efficiency, and other health-related policies.</p>	<p>People who are healthy are more likely to be able to find and hold jobs and pay state taxes.</p>	<p>Many states have their own earned-income tax credit.</p> <p>States can require hospital community benefit investments to align with priorities in State Health Improvement Plans, such as affordable housing, and with Certificate or Determination of Need requirements for hospitals.</p> <p>State taxes can incentivize cleaner air, energy efficiency, and other health-related policies</p>	<p>Department of revenue/taxation</p> <p>Office of comptroller</p> <p>Office of the attorney general (for nonprofits/charities)</p> <p>State energy office (for efficiency incentives)</p> <p>Department of public health (soda/tobacco taxes)</p>	<p>Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), Policy Basics: State Earned Income Tax Credits</p> <p>CDC’s HI-5, Helping people quit tobacco</p>
<p><u>Infant Mortality</u></p>	<p>Newborns’ health is influenced by their families’ social and economic conditions. Medical care alone does not solve the problem of infant mortality.</p> <p>Some babies are twice as likely to die as other babies based solely on their race. State policies can help keep all babies alive.</p> <p>States can promote evidence-based, low-tech interventions to address the leading causes of infant mortality.</p>	<p>Babies born to African-American parents are twice as likely to die as white babies.</p> <p>States can promote evidence-based, low-tech interventions to address the leading causes of infant mortality</p>	<p>State Health Improvement Plans (SHIP)s can include strategies to decrease infant mortality</p> <p>State Child Fatality Advisory Committees can study deaths and provide recommendations.</p>	<p>Public health</p> <p>State office of health equity</p> <p>State division of maternal and infant health</p> <p>State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) directors</p>	<p>CDC’s Healthy People 2020 Maternal, Infant, and Child Health</p> <p>Illinois Dept. of Public Health, Infant Mortality Toolkit: Tackling the Root Causes</p>

<p>Housing</p>	<p>It is difficult to improve health and control medical spending when people do not have a safe, stable place to live.</p> <p>A safe place to sleep, and to store and prepare food, helps people stay healthy.</p> <p>Housing and supportive services can reduce avoidable hospital visits, control costs, and improve health for people experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Supportive housing helps vulnerable families stay together and helps students stay in school.</p> <p>Keeping homes free of lead, mold, and pests helps people stay healthy and avoids costly emergency room visits.</p>	<p>Studies show housing and services can significantly reduce costs and hospital utilization.</p> <p>See Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's Cityscape</p>	<p>States produce Qualified Allocation Plans (QAPs) to guide the awarding of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to developers. States can award QAP points for including healthy housing features and aligning with state health and housing goals.</p> <p>State Health Improvement Plans often include health and housing goals.</p>	<p>Housing finance agency</p> <p>Housing authority</p> <p>Medicaid housing liaison</p> <p>Building inspector and division of code enforcement</p> <p>Department of public health</p>	<p>National Governor's Association Housing as Health Care Roadmap</p> <p>CityHealth rates cities for affordable housing and inclusionary zoning policies.</p> <p>NASHP's Housing and Health Resources for States</p>
<p>Transportation</p>	<p>Reliable transportation is important for physical health and a thriving local economy. For example, it helps people work, visit the doctor and shop for groceries.</p> <p>Safe places to walk and bike promote exercise and active living, which can help prevent and control costly chronic conditions, such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease.</p>	<p>One study suggests that "complete streets" designed for walking, biking, cars, and public transit may be safer and tied to broader economic growth.</p> <p>States are pioneering legislation governing autonomous vehicles to ensure their safety while maximizing their potential.</p>	<p>Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plans, required by federal statute to plan for a minimum 20-year forecast period. Updates required at least every four years.</p> <p>Federal funding streams are available for highways, public transportation, and other surface transportation projects including bike and pedestrian projects.</p>	<p>Department of transportation</p> <p>Safe Routes to School planner</p> <p>Department of public health</p> <p>State Medicaid agency</p>	<p>CDC's Health Impact in Five Years Interventions (HI-5)</p> <p>CityHealth</p> <p>American Public Health Association (APHA), Transportation and Health</p>

	<p>Low-emissions vehicles and public transit can improve air quality to help people breathe easier.</p>		<p>State gas and vehicle taxes that support transportation funding</p> <p>State Health Improvement Plans can include walking, biking, and safe transportation priorities, such as Safe Routes to School</p>		<p>Congressional Research Service, Federal Public Transportation Program: In Brief</p> <p>General Accountability Office, Transportation-Disadvantaged Populations: Federal Coordination Efforts Could be Further Strengthened</p> <p>Department of Transportation, Integrate Health and Transportation Planning</p>
<p>Emergency Preparedness</p>	<p>Storms, wildfires, and drought caused loss of life and billions of dollars in damage in 2018.</p> <p>Tick- and mosquito-borne illnesses have tripled due to factors including changing climate, and vaccine-preventable diseases are re-emerging.</p>	<p>Weather-related disasters have caused loss of life and billions of dollars of damage, and the costs to states to prevent or respond to infectious diseases such as Zika are high.</p>	<p>State Emergency Operations Plan</p> <p>State Emergency Operations Center</p> <p>State infectious disease protocols</p>	<p>State office of emergency management</p> <p>State public health emergency preparedness division</p>	<p>Trust for America's Health, Ready or Not? Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism</p>

	<p>National health security depends on a robust public infrastructure that can help keep an emergency from becoming a disaster.</p> <p>Clear, credible, and consistent information from state leaders can help calm a restive public during a crisis</p>		<p>State health improvement plan</p>	<p>Department of public health</p> <p>State laboratory</p> <p>National Guard</p> <p>Department of agriculture (mosquito control)</p> <p>State environmental protection agency</p> <p>State fire agency</p>	<p>Association of State and Territorial Officials (ASTHO), Preparedness</p> <p>APHA, Get Ready</p> <p>National Conference of State Legislators, Natural Disasters Taking a Toll on States</p>
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This document is part of NASHP's [Upstream Health Priorities for New Governors Toolkit](#). Explore the entire toolkit [here](https://nashp.org/toolkit-upstream-health-priorities-for-new-governors/).