



# 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><a href="#">Education</a></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 <a href="#">critical</a> for learning and success.</p>	<p><a href="#">Evidence suggests</a> 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><a href="#">Early child development strategic plans</a></p> <p><a href="#">Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plans</a></p> <p>Telehealth and telemental health services</p> <p>State support for <a href="#">school-based health centers</a></p> <p><a href="#">Medicaid</a> 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 <a href="#">Universal Pre-K</a></p> <p>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) <a href="#">Health Impact in Five Years Interventions (HI-5)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Jobs</a></p>	<p>A <a href="#">healthy workforce</a> 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 <a href="#">State Health Improvement Plans</a></p> <p>-State agencies also can weave health into federal initiatives like <a href="#">Opportunity Zones</a> and the <a href="#">Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act</a></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 <a href="#">Evidence-Based Supported Employment and Medicaid</a></p> <p><a href="#">Transitional Jobs</a>, What Works for Health, Wisconsin</p>

<p><b><u>Opioids</u></b></p>	<p>Opioid misuse, overdose, and deaths are preventable, yet nationwide more than <a href="#">115</a> 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' <a href="#">Five-Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis</a></p> <p>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (<a href="#">SAMHSA</a>) <a href="#">Opioid overdose prevention toolkit</a></p>
<p><b><u>Budget</u></b></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 <a href="#">save</a> 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), <a href="#">State Budget Conditions</a></p> <p>National Assoc. of State Budget Officers (NASBO), <a href="#">Budget Processes in the States</a></p>

<p><b><u>Taxation</u></b></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 <a href="#">tobacco</a>.</p> <p>State taxes can incentivize cleaner <a href="#">air</a>, energy <a href="#">efficiency</a>, 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 <a href="#">states</a> have their own earned-income tax credit.</p> <p>States can require <a href="#">hospital community benefit</a> investments to align with priorities in <a href="#">State Health Improvement Plans</a>, such as <a href="#">affordable housing</a>, and with <a href="#">Certificate or Determination of Need</a> requirements for hospitals.</p> <p>State taxes can incentivize cleaner <a href="#">air</a>, energy <a href="#">efficiency</a>, 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), <a href="#">Policy Basics: State Earned Income Tax Credits</a></p> <p>CDC’s HI-5, <a href="#">Helping people quit tobacco</a></p>
<p><b><u>Infant Mortality</u></b></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 <a href="#">twice</a> 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 <a href="#">twice</a> 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><a href="#">State Health Improvement Plans</a> (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 <a href="#">Healthy People 2020</a> Maternal, Infant, and Child Health</p> <p>Illinois Dept. of Public Health, <a href="#">Infant Mortality Toolkit: Tackling the Root Causes</a></p>

<p><b>Housing</b></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 <a href="#">can</a> reduce avoidable hospital visits, control costs, and improve health for people experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Supportive housing <a href="#">helps</a> 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><a href="#">Studies</a> show housing and services can significantly reduce costs and hospital utilization.</p> <p>See Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's <a href="#">Cityscape</a></p>	<p>States produce <a href="#">Qualified Allocation Plans</a> (QAPs) to guide the awarding of <a href="#">Low-Income Housing Tax Credits</a> to developers. States can <a href="#">award</a> QAP points for including healthy housing features and aligning with state health and housing goals.</p> <p><a href="#">State Health Improvement Plans</a> 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 <a href="#">Housing as Health Care Roadmap</a></p> <p><a href="#">CityHealth</a> rates cities for affordable housing and inclusionary zoning policies.</p> <p>NASHP's <a href="#">Housing and Health Resources for States</a></p>
<p><b>Transportation</b></p>	<p>Reliable transportation is important for physical health and a thriving local economy. For example, it <a href="#">helps</a> 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 <a href="#">study</a> suggests that "complete streets" designed for walking, biking, cars, and public transit may be safer and tied to broader economic growth.</p> <p><a href="#">States</a> are pioneering legislation governing <a href="#">autonomous vehicles</a> to ensure their safety while maximizing their potential.</p>	<p><a href="#">Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plans</a>, required by federal <a href="#">statute</a> to plan for a minimum 20-year forecast period. Updates required at least every four years.</p> <p>Federal funding streams are available for <a href="#">highways</a>, public transportation, and other <a href="#">surface transportation</a> 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><a href="#">CDC's Health Impact in Five Years Interventions (HI-5)</a></p> <p><a href="#">CityHealth</a></p> <p>American Public Health Association (APHA), <a href="#">Transportation and Health</a></p>

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