



2023 State Policy Priorities

United States of Care (USofC) works to ensure **everyone has access to quality, affordable health care** regardless of health status, social need, or income. By putting the needs of people at the forefront of our research and policy solutions, we can create a health care system that works for people.

USofC supports the following 2023 state legislative priorities that provide opportunities to build towards a fairer health care system that doesn't leave anyone bankrupt when they need care. These common sense and targeted solutions have broad support from the electorate, reflect the concerns we hear from people across the country, and USofC has prioritized them in considering the current health care landscape. In 2023, we anticipate partnering with state advocates and policymakers to pursue legislation that provides new low-cost coverage options, eliminates out-of-pocket costs for basic health services, and expands eligibility for public health coverage programs.

Provide new, low-cost coverage options

Eighty-six percent of people support allowing individuals and small businesses to access high-quality, dependable, and more affordable coverage. At the state level, we can take immediate action to lower costs while increasing competition and making coverage more accessible to all by:

- Adopting public health insurance options;
- Creating options for people to buy-in to Medicaid coverage; and
- Strengthening the health insurance marketplaces, including addressing the underlying costs of care.

Eliminate out-of-pocket costs for basic health care services

Eighty-seven percent of people support eliminating out-of-pocket costs for basic health care services. We encourage states to take action to align the health care services that are covered and affordable with what people need most from their health care system by:

- Protecting the no-cost preventive services people can get right now under the Affordable Care Act;

- Expanding no-cost services to include things like mental health visits and primary care; and
- Eliminating cost barriers for services that improve health care outcomes and reduce disparities (high-value care).

Expanding eligibility for public health coverage programs

Seventy-three percent of people support expanding eligibility for public programs. For many people, expanded eligibility for public programs such as Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Medicare would ensure their coverage is more dependable and affordable. Each of these targeted solutions improves access, expands eligibility, and builds from existing public programs to strengthen the bridge between coverage options so that people don't get lost in the system as life changes:

- Expanding Medicaid (in the 12 states that haven't yet done so);
- Expanding postpartum Medicaid coverage to 12 months; and
- Pursuing other innovative opportunities to ensure more people can access coverage.

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United States of Care is a nonpartisan nonprofit that works to expand access to quality, affordable health care while paving a path toward durable, people-centered state and federal policies. USofC promotes a policy roadmap, the United Solutions for Care, comprised of twelve targeted solutions to the most pressing and urgent challenges people face in the health care system. **Learn more at unitedstatesofcare.org/united-solutions-for-care.**