

# 2024 Voter Guide

At Children's Hospital Colorado, our mission is to improve the health of children through patient care, education, research and advocacy. Elections are an important opportunity to impact children's health in Colorado, and there is a lot at stake in the 2024 election. This voter guide provides information and resources to help you be a champion for child health this **Nov. 5.** 

As a non-profit, non-partisan organization, Children's Colorado does not support or oppose political parties, political candidates or candidates. We do support certain ballot measures in cases where child health will be affected and do our best to inform our patients and families, team members and community members on such issues.





# How to Vote in Colorado

### **Register or Update Your Registration**

- Be sure you are registered to vote and all your information, like your mailing address, is up to date.
- Visit www.GoVoteColorado.gov to get started or make any changes to your voter registration.
- You can register before and on Election Day. If you don't register by Oct. 28 you will need to vote in person at a local polling center.

## Watch for Your Ballot and Get Educated

- Colorado's county clerks will begin mailing ballots in mid-October.
- All voters registered by Oct. 28 will receive a ballot in the mail
- Mail ballots must be in the hands of the county clerk by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 5 in order to be counted.
- If you do not receive a mail ballot or make a mistake, damage, or lose your mail ballot, you may request a replacement from your county clerk.
- While you wait for your ballot, use resources like this voter guide to learn about candidates and issues.

### Vote!

- Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 5.
- After your ballot arrives, fill it out and mail it back or drop it off at a polling place or ballot drop box. Ballots must be mailed by October 28th, or can be returned at a local drop box through Election Day.
- If you prefer to vote in person, visit a local polling center before 7 p.m. on Election Day.
- Find a ballot drop box location, your local polling locations, or county requirements for postage by visiting the website of your county election office, which you can find at GoVoteColorado.gov.
- All ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5.
- Be sure to vote your whole ballot your voice on every issue and office matters!

## Be a Voice for Kids

Do you know where the candidates stand on the most important kids' health issues? Do they know your opinions and ideas? When candidates call you, knock on your door or hold town hall meetings, will you be ready to ask them the questions that count? Here are some questions you can ask the candidates who want your vote.

- Colorado is experiencing a youth mental health crisis, with suicide being a leading cause of death for kids starting at age 10. How would you lead efforts to address the youth mental health crisis in our state?
- With the end of the federal public health emergency declaration in 2023, more than 147,000 children in Colorado have lost their Medicaid coverage. What steps do you plan to take to prevent future disruptions in Medicaid coverage for children?
- Children's health and wellness extends beyond traditional healthcare and is greatly impacted by the conditions of their homes, communities, and schools. What policies will you advocate for to improve whole child health if elected?

# Colorado Voter Resources

**Just Vote Colorado** - Just Vote Colorado is a great source of non-partisan information for all things elections in Colorado.

Justvotecolorado.org 866-OUR-VOTE | 866-687-8683 (English) 888-VE-Y-VOTA | 888-839-8682 (Español)

**Secretary of State** – The Colorado Secretary of State's website provides helpful information for voters including information on candidates, ballot measures, voting accessibility, and registration for high school and college students.

Sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections

**Vote Smart** – Vote Smart offers information on which candidates are running for office in your area.

votesmart.org

**Blue Book** – Colorado's "Blue Book" is an impartial and nonpartisan guide of all the ballot measures. Available in English and in Spanish, the Blue Book will be mailed to all eligible voters before Election Day, and you can also access it online.

Colorado.gov/bluebook

### Guide to the Ballot

This election, your ballot is going to be full of important leadership roles and ballot measures to consider. Remember, it's important to vote your whole ballot – every elected position and measure has an impact on you and your community.

### The Races

**Presidential Race** - It's a presidential election year where voters will choose a new leader for our country. The president sets the national tone with their policy platform, and names other leaders to important roles within the federal government who have power on key child health issues.

Here's who is running and where you can find more information about their priorities and positions:

- Kamala Harris with Tim Walz (Democrat)
  Learn more at kamalaharris.com
- Donald Trump with J.D. Vance (Republican) Learn more at www.donaldjtrump.com

**U.S. House of Representatives** – All eight of Colorado's U.S. House of Representative seats are up for election this year. Congressional members make decisions on federal laws and the federal budget, including child health policies and funding.

**State Senate and House Races** – Many voters will see elections for their state-level policymakers in both the State Senate and State House of Representatives. These legislators make decisions on state laws and the state budget, inclusive of child health priorities.

Other Elected Officials – Your ballot may also include other policymaking roles, including races for the State Board of Education, District Attorney and RTD Board of Directors. These positions make decisions that impact factors of whole child health, like education and mobility.



#### **Ballot Measures**

Children's Colorado does not take a position on every measure, but it is still important to vote on each measure and complete your ballot. For more information on each measure, check out the voter resources mentioned in this guide.

YES on 7A to Support RTD Services – If you live in the Regional Transportation District (RTD), you will be asked to consider a request to permanently allow RTD to keep funds collected under current tax rates that would be refunded to taxpayers under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). These funds would allow RTD to continue to provide free or reduced cost transportation services for youth and families, maintain current bus and rail transportation choices, make repairs and improvements, increase security and safety measures and more.

#### Why Children's Colorado supports it:

- RTD provides critical access and mobility to our patients, families, and workforce.
- Over 3 million people live within the RTD service area, with over 65 million boardings, including 542,619
   Access-a-Ride boardings for individuals with disabilities, in 2023. Without these additional funds, RTD estimates a need to cut up to 20% of bus and train service in the next two years.

Children's Colorado is encouraging a "Yes" vote on 7A. You can learn more about 7A at keepcoloradomoving.com.

YES on 2Q to Support Denver Health – Voters in Denver will be asked to consider a sales tax increase to support the care and services that Denver Health provides to nearly 25% of Denver's population annually. As a vital safety-net health system in Colorado, Denver Health provides healthcare services to individuals regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay, including children. With Denver's population growth and the rising costs of health care, Denver Health is facing significant challenges in maintaining its current level of services without additional funding.

### Why Children's Colorado supports it:

- We believe all children should have access to the healthcare services they need to grow up healthy and strong, regardless of their ability to pay.
- Denver Health meets critical needs for children and families in Denver not only through its direct hospital and emergency services but also through access to youth mental health services and partnership programs in the community including 19 school-based health center locations to provide care to all Denver Public Schools students.

Children's Colorado is encouraging a "Yes" vote on 2Q. You can learn more about 2Q at healingdenver.org.



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