

Democratic Presidential Candidates			
Question	Candidate	Position on Medicare for ALL	Defining Quote
Do you support Medicare for ALL?	Tulsi Gabbard	Gabbard co-sponsored the Medicare for All Act . The candidate specifically says, “Everyone deserves quality healthcare in our country. As president, I will work to ensure all Americans have that quality healthcare through a single-payer system that is incentivized to increase health and prevent and heal disease, whilst allowing individuals to access private insurance if they choose.”	“We have to fight to make sure that every single American gets the quality health care that they need through Medicare-for-all.”
Do you support Medicare for ALL?	Bernie Sanders	Thanks to his 2016 presidential run and 2017 proposal, Sanders’s Medicare-for-all has become one of the major litmus tests in the 2020 primary. “We need to establish a Medicare-for-all, single-payer system.” Bernie believes that everyone should have access to the health care they need. He believes the way to accomplish this is a universal healthcare single-payer system: Medicare for All.	“... the time is long overdue for the United States to join every other major country on Earth and guarantee health care to all people as a right ...”
Do you support Medicare for ALL?	Elizabeth Warren	Warren co-sponsored Sen. Bernie Sanders’s Medicare-for-all bill in 2017 but has kept details broad on the campaign trail. She said there are “different ways” to get to “affordable health care for every American.” She also signed onto a bill to create a Medicaid-based public health-care option on state insurance marketplaces. Elizabeth supports Medicare for All , which would provide all Americans with a public health care program. Medicare for All is the best way to give every single person in this country a guarantee of high-quality health care. Everybody is covered. Nobody goes broke because of a medical bill. No more fighting with insurance companies.	“... of course we can afford to invest in making sure every American has health care.”
Do you support Medicare for ALL?	Andrew Yang	Yang said he wants to “move in the direction of a single-payer system” either through expanding Medicare to everyone or creating a new system. That means: controlling the COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS , INVESTING IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY to cut waste and boost access, changing the incentive structure for providers, SHIFTING OUR FOCUS on more stages of care, revamping what COMPREHENSIVE CARE means in the 21st century to include crucial aspects of WELLBEING .	“We need to provide high-quality health care to all Americans and a single-payer system is the most efficient way to accomplish that.”

Question	Candidate	Position on a Public Option	Defining Quote
Do you prefer a public option?	Michael Bennet	<p>"When you tell people the first thing about Medicare for All — either that it takes insurance away from 180 million Americans that have it through their employer or the taxes we would have to pay to afford that \$30 trillion program — that 70 percent support falls to the mid-30s."</p> <p>Medicare-X will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a public insurance option plan that would be available on the exchange for people to buy if they had no insurance or didn't like their current private insurance. • Require the federal government, for the first time in history, to negotiate lower drug prices for Medicare and Medicare-X. • Include all of the essential health benefits required under the ACA, including maternity care and mental health services. • Ensure that individuals will not pay any more than 13% of their income on insurance premiums. 	Bennet told CNN . "I think we need to level with the American people."
Do you prefer a public option?	Joseph R. Biden	<p>His health plan backs a public health insurance option like Medicare by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping "surprise billing" • Allowing consumers to buy prescription drugs from other countries • Expanding access to contraception and protect the constitutional right to an abortion 	"I understand the appeal of Medicare-for-all, but folks supporting it should be clear that it means getting rid of Obamacare, and I'm not for that," Biden said in a video .

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Do you prefer a public option?	Michael R. Bloomberg	<p>“The first step is to create a Medicare-like public option — health insurance that would be administered by the federal government but paid for by customer premiums,” Bloomberg's health plan said. “In rolling out this option, priority would go to the uninsured, including low-income people who are in states that haven’t expanded Medicaid under the ACA. A public insurance option would improve consumer choice and increase competition in the private insurance market, pushing down everyone’s premiums. People of modest means who buy the public option would be eligible for the same subsidies that would apply on the health insurance exchanges.</p>	<p>In January 2019, Bloomberg said Medicare-for-all "would bankrupt us for a very long time."</p>
Do you prefer a public option?	Pete Buttigieg	<p>At the time of initial publication, his campaign said that Buttigieg's stance was a version of Medicare-for-all, though in December 2019 a spokesperson said that Buttigieg prefers a public option, rather than a version of Medicare-for-all. The following are elements of the Buttigieg plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guaranteeing universal coverage through Medicare for All Who Want It. • Making marketplace coverage dramatically more affordable for individuals and families. • Ending surprise billing by requiring all providers at in-network facilities to be in-network. • Bringing down the costs of health care in America by tackling high administrative costs. 	<p>In a March 2019 CNN town hall, Buttigieg said the "best way" to move toward a Medicare-for-all system is to "take some flavor of Medicare, you make it available on the exchange as a kind of public option, and you invite people to buy into it."</p>
Do you prefer a public option?	Amy Klobuchar	<p>Klobuchar prefers offering a Medicaid-type plan, embracing a bill to create a Medicaid-based public health-care option on state insurance marketplaces. She also signed onto a bill to lower the Medicare eligibility age to 50.</p>	<p>“It could be a possibility in the future. I’m just looking at something that will work now.”</p>

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Do you prefer a public option?	Deval Patrick	Patrick doesn't support Medicare-for-all "in the terms we've been talking about," he said in a Nov. 2019 CBS interview . He said he supports a public option.	"... a health care system that provides access to high-quality, low-cost health services everywhere and for every single individual, bar none."
Do you prefer a public option?	Tom Steyer	Tom supports a universal health care system, including a strong public option that aggressively competes with the private insurance marketplace, drives down costs, and expands coverage." "I support opening Medicare to all who want it," Steyer told The Post.	"... the American people deserve a health care system where everyone has access to quality, affordable, and secure health care."