

Election Resources

Questions for APA Members to Ask Candidates



Access to Care

Access to mental health and substance use disorder services has never been in higher demand, how will you advance these services in your community?

Safe Prescribing

As policymakers look to increase access to MH/SUD services, patient safety must be paramount. What is your opinion on non-medically trained providers, such as psychologists, being able to prescribe medication?

Workforce

There is a growing demand for mental health and substance use disorder treatment and a demand for behavioral health care professionals, including psychiatrists who are medical doctors. What are your plans or ideas to increase the number of psychiatrists in your district/state? How can we encourage them to train here and stay here?

Gender-Affirming Care

What is your position on access to gender-affirming care?

Psychedelics

Do you believe states should follow the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's lead when it comes to authorizing the manufacturing, distribution, and use of hallucinogens such as psilocybin?

Opioid Crisis

Last year alone there were 81,083 opioid-related overdose deaths nationally. What policies or investments do you support to tackle the opioid crisis?

Youth Mental Health

Since the pandemic, youth mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety and suicides have significantly increased. What actions will you take to support children's mental health, specifically in access to care and suicide prevention?

Suicide Prevention

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the US and the 3rd leading cause of death for youth and young adults aged 10-24. The current federal budget includes vital funding for suicide prevention programs. What policies do you support to combat this tragic loss of life?

Mental Health Parity

Millions of Americans still struggle to find accessible and affordable mental health treatment through their insurance. What will you do to hold insurers accountable to parity laws, which require they cover mental health services the same as physical health services?

Gun Violence

Do you support continuing federal funding into evidence-based research for public health approaches to gun violence?

Health Equity Maternal Mortality

The maternal mortality rate in the US has increased dramatically in the past 10 years, and mental health conditions and substance use disorders conditions are now the leading underlying cause. What policies will you support to address the maternal health crisis?

Workforce Development

Projections show the country will be short 15-30 thousand psychiatrists by next year. How will you support the development of mental health physicians necessary to tackle the ongoing mental health crisis in our country?

Telehealth Access

Telehealth increases access to care by eliminating many common barriers, particularly for rural communities, underserved populations, transportation deserts in urban areas, and individuals with certain diagnoses. Do you support permanent extension of telehealth flexibilities and equitable requirements for mental health and substance use care and services?