

## 2004 Presidential Candidates' Health Reform Plans

		Just Health Care	Bush	Clark	Dean	Edwards	Gephardt	Kerry	Kucinich	Lieberman	Moseley Braun	Sharpton
1	Includes Everyone	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
2	Controls Costs	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
3	Takes Profit Out	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
4	Cuts Link to Employment	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
5	Choice	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
6	Full Coverage	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
7	Fair Financing	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	?	?
8	Just Transition	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	?	N	N	N
9	Simple to Administer	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
10	Uninsured Covered (in millions - 2001 data)	41	4	32*	31*	22*	31*	27*	41	32*	41	41

**Sources:** Commonwealth Fund, Physicians for a National Health Program, AFL-CIO, Candidates' websites

### Guide to Criteria:

**1. Includes Everyone** – Mandates “universal” coverage, establishing a right to health care.

**2. Controls Costs** – Sets global budgets, cuts administrative waste, eliminates profit, curtails bureaucracy and fosters health planning.

**3. Takes Profit Out** – Eliminates financial incentives to provide too much or too little care.

**4. Link to Employment** – Cuts the link to employment to take health care off the bargaining table, provides coverage during unemployment.

**5. Choice** – Patients are free to choose their own doctors and hospitals, and doctors are free to choose where they practice.

**6. Full Coverage** – Includes comprehensive range of services without co-pays.

**7. Fair Financing** – Those most able to pay contribute more. Moseley Braun and Sharpton have not released financing plans to date.

**8. Just Transition** – Compensates workers who lose their jobs due to cutting administrative waste in the for-profit health care system.

**9. Simple to Administer** – Automatic enrollment/no billing/minimal paperwork

**10. # of Uninsured Covered** – Chart represents candidates' claims for coverage of uninsured. Plans with \* are dependent on tax credits to cover the uninsured. Tax credits cover only a fraction of the cost of insurance (for example, a \$1000 tax credit is only a quarter of the cost of a \$4,000 individual policy) and could encourage employers to cut back on health benefits. Only Just Health Care-type plans mandate universal coverage.