

Massachusetts

Voters in Massachusetts will elect a Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and state legislators in the 2018 election cycle. All 160 seats are up in the state Assembly and all 40 seats are up in the state Senate. Republicans are expected to maintain control of the governorship while Democrats are expected to maintain control of legislature.

Governor

Democratic Nominee

[Jay Gonzalez](#)

Jay Gonzalez launched his campaign for governor back in January 2017. Previously, Gonzalez chaired the Board of Early Education and Care and served in the Patrick Administration as well.

Gonzales wants to implement criminal justice reform including expanding programs for mental illness, repeal mandatory minimum sentences, raising the juvenile age to 21, and reform bail practices.

Gonzalez recently proposed a \$1 billion per year investment for childcare, preschool, debt-free community colleges and universities, and to improve roads and bridges. To do this, his proposal calls for a 1.6% tax on the endowments of private, non-profit colleges and universities with endowment funds exceeding \$1 billion.

He is, like his opponent, running on the opioid epidemic wanting to expand safe disposal options and injection facilities and to require insurers to provide co-pay free coverage of Methodone, Suboxone, and Vivitrol. He has stated that he would work with the AG office to hold pharmaceutical companies accountable for the epidemic and seek restitution for the costs associated with fighting the opioid epidemic they helped create.

He supports carbon pricing and a goal of 50% clean energy sources by 2030.

Gonzalez is also campaigning on transit issues. He pledges to fix the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). He supports exploring high-speed rail.

Trivia: Recently, President Obama (D) endorsed Gonzalez's campaign for governor.