

## RHODE ISLAND

Voters in Rhode Island will elect a governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general this cycle. All 75 House seats will be on the ballot as well as all 38 Senate seats. Democrats are expected to maintain control of the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, and the legislature.

### Governor

### Republican Nominee

[Ashley Kalus](#)

Ashley Kalus (R) is a businesswoman and healthcare executive, and has previously been a Pew Civic Engagement Fellow, a district court mediator, and a Citizen Scholar. Her and her husband started a non-profit foundation, Komedyplast, in 2004. Komedyplast provides free surgery for children with craniofacial anomalies throughout Peru.

Her main priorities for the office focus on education and the economy, but she has also touched on other issues such as health care, the opioid crisis, infrastructure, affordable housing and taking care of the state's most vulnerable residents.

Kalus has released a comprehensive education [policy plan](#) titled "Delivering a World-Class Education for All Rhode Island Children." She proposes creating universal Pre-K for four-year olds, revising the state's funding formula, implementing a progress-based testing system, and making quality K-12 education a constitutional right in Rhode Island. Kalus supports public school choice and establishing one new STREAM school per county.

In her [economic plan](#), Kalus suggests a number of policy changes, such as tax reforms, improvements to broadband, additional investments in infrastructure, and the creation of a Governor's Small Business Committee to provide regular updates on the state of small businesses in Rhode Island.

Kalus has been running ads introducing herself – and criticizing Governor and opponent Daniel McKee (D) – since early spring. Her ads point to McKee as the reason for the high costs of food and gas prices in the state.

Kalus has spent over \$3 million during the race, most of which has come from her own pocket.

Kalus and McKee appeared at several candidate forums together before their respective primaries and have already debated twice during the general election campaign. A final debate between the two is scheduled for November 3.

*Trivia: Kalus is a Golden Gloves boxing champion.*