

## OHIO

In addition to an open-seat governor's race, Ohio voters will choose a new attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, and state treasurer. All 99 seats in the house and 17 of the 33 seats in the senate are also on the ballot. The gubernatorial race is expected to be competitive while Republicans anticipate maintaining control of other executive offices and the legislature.

### Governor

#### Democratic Nominee

#### Amy Acton

Amy Acton is a physician and former director of the Ohio Department of Health who rose to statewide prominence leading Ohio's early response to the COVID-19 pandemic under Republican Governor Mike DeWine. After leaving state government in 2020, Acton worked at The Columbus Foundation, where she helped launch initiatives focused on public health, community well-being, and regional development before entering the 2026 race for governor.

Acton's [platform](#) focuses on lowering costs for working families, strengthening public education, expanding access to affordable health care, and growing Ohio's economy through investments in small businesses and workforce development. She wants to implement an **earned income credit, child tax credit, and a tax cut** for middle- and lower-class families.

Acton supports **advancing regional economic development**, expanding workforce development and skills training, and investing in **broadband** and **transportation infrastructure**.

On **healthcare**, Acton wants to launch an online platform to leverage purchasing power from the state's Medicaid single pharmacy benefit manager to drive down drug prices. She plans to strengthen Ohio's efforts to crack down on **surprise billing** and build on the bipartisan effort to **end "predatory" collection practices**.

Acton supports an all-of-the-above **energy** policy to enhance production and expand access to cost-savings programs. She wants to reinstate consumer protection programs targeted by **HB 6**. Acton is adamant that costs for energy and water must be covered by **data centers** and investors, and that any new projects be built using Ohio's unionized workforce.

On **education**, Acton wants to invest in new math, literacy, and workforce training programs. She also hopes to achieve free breakfast and lunch for all students.

**Larry Sabato's Crystal Ball** rate the governor's race as Lean Republican while **The Cook Political Report** rates it as a toss-up.

*Trivia: Before leading Ohio's health department, she was a physician and public health researcher, with a background focused on health equity and childhood wellness.*