

Universal Health Care Commission

Frequently asked questions

What is the Universal Health Care Commission?

The Commission is responsible for designing a unified system that provides health care coverage and access for everyone in Washington. We'll need federal permission to help everyone across the state. Until then, we also find ways to help more people get quality, affordable health care right now.

How did the Commission start?

In 2019, the Legislature directed the Health Care Authority (HCA) to form a work group to study how to create, fund, and run a universal health care system. Following the Universal Health Care Work Group's final report in 2021, [the Legislature passed a law](#) creating the Universal Health Care Commission.

Who serves on the Commission?

The Commission has 15 voting members:

- Six Governor-appointed members
- Five state agency representatives
- Four legislators

What is the Finance Technical Advisory Committee?

The Finance Technical Advisory Committee (FTAC) helps the Commission decide the best way to fund universal health care. The committee considers all the financial parts of a unified system and how they depend on each other. With FTAC's expert guidance, the Commission can design a more affordable unified system.

FTAC's nine members include one patient representative, one representative from the Office of Financial Management, and one representative from the Department of Revenue.

How often does the Commission meet, and can I attend?

We meet every other month. You can attend in person at Cherry Street Plaza in Olympia, join on Zoom, or call on mobile. [See our meeting webpage for details.](#)

We welcome your thoughts on universal health care. [Write to our email](#) to sign up to speak in a meeting or send your comment in writing. If you want us to share your writing in an upcoming meeting, be sure to tell us that your message is **public comment**.
