

2018 Life Sciences Pennsylvania Gubernatorial Candidate Questionnaire

Governor Tom Wolf

1. Access and Affordability: It can take more than 10 years and \$2 billion to bring a new, life-saving medicine to market. Even though prescription medicines account for only 10-14 percent of total healthcare costs, public policy stakeholders have increased their focus on prescription drug pricing/transparency.

• *What measures do you anticipate your Administration will implement or advocate with respect to Pennsylvania's role as a prescription drug purchaser or regulator?*

I am committed to ensuring that new, life-saving medicine can be brought to market efficiently and safely. And I understand that drug prices often reflect multiple research and development efforts to find a solution to a pressing public health issue. As a purchaser, I will continue to work to ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently while ensuring that research and development efforts continue. On the other side, I will advocate for consumers when manufacturers are taking advantage of vulnerable Pennsylvanians by hiking prices to simply increase profits.

2. Positioning Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania's life sciences industry is a major component of the Commonwealth's economy, providing a direct economic impact of \$48.8 billion. However, the Commonwealth faces stiff competition from neighboring states and other countries looking to attract highly-skilled and high-paying jobs.

• *How will you position Pennsylvania in this competitive market, and what can the Commonwealth do to better market the state as an ideal place to start, grow and maintain a life sciences company?*

I am committed to utilizing the talents of Pennsylvania's highly-skilled and dedicated workforce to continue to grow our communities and strengthen our economy, specifically in the life sciences field. I am fighting to grow Pennsylvania's economy and create good paying jobs. I eliminated the capital stock and franchise tax once and for all and created a one-stop-shop for small businesses to help cut through red tape and help entrepreneurs grow. I have also made significant investments in workforce development to ensure that more Pennsylvanians have access to high-wage, family sustaining jobs.²

Throughout my first term, maintaining and growing our life sciences footprint has been a major component of my economic development strategy. Not only do life sciences companies play a significant role in ensuring a strong economy, they also provide the type of good-paying, family sustaining wage jobs I'm focused on expanding in Pennsylvania. Just this month, I was able to participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony for Harmony Biosciences' new headquarters in Montgomery County.

And thanks to the work of my administration, I have been able to make major announcements about the expansion of life sciences companies in the commonwealth. Last year I announced Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories, Inc.'s expansion in Lancaster County, which created 350 new, full-time jobs and retained 1,500 existing positions. Eurofins is a provider of analytical testing services to the bio/pharmaceutical, food, environmental, and medical device industries. And similarly, in 2015, I announced the expansion of Adaptimmune Therapeutics which created at least 100 new, high paying jobs. Adaptimmune is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing T-cell receptor cancer immunotherapy treatments.

In my second term, I will continue to work with the Governor's Action Team, the Department of Community and Economic Development, and all other stakeholders to ensure that Pennsylvania's economy, and specifically the life sciences sector, remains robust and competitive.

3. Budget/Tax Items and Economic Development: Following-up on the previous question – the Research and Development Tax, Life Sciences Greenhouses, Ben Franklin Technology Partners and CURE Funding, are all critical components to attract and develop existing new and existing life sciences companies to Pennsylvania. However, the Commonwealth has the second-highest corporate net income tax rate in the country.

• Do you support the continued use of these, and similar, incentives to spur innovation in the life sciences? Additionally, recently enacted Federal Tax Reform is anticipated to swell state Corporate Net Income Tax collections. How will your Administration change the tax policy in the state to attract new investment in Pennsylvania?

I'm fighting to grow Pennsylvania's economy and create good paying jobs. I eliminated the capital stock and franchise tax once and for all and created a one-stop-shop for small businesses to help cut through red tape and help entrepreneurs grow. I have also made significant investments in workforce development to ensure that more Pennsylvanians have access to high-wage, family sustaining jobs. And, I have repeatedly called for the lowering of the corporate net income tax in conjunction with the closing of the Delaware Loophole to make sure all businesses are paying their fair share. I will continue to advocate for commonsense reforms that build our economy.

Investments in research and development, technology and life sciences are essential to a thriving 21st century economy in Pennsylvania. I will continue to prioritize these programs along with making investments in critical services that enhance the quality of life for commonwealth residents and attract businesses.

4. Patient Awareness: There are approximately 1.2 million rare disease patients in Pennsylvania. In 2017, the Rare Disease Advisory Council was established to raise awareness of rare diseases and ensure their patients have access to health care coverage.

• Are there other initiatives that the Commonwealth can undertake to provide patients with the support system and access to health coverage they need?

I recognize that individuals with rare and unique diseases far too often cannot access services that are tailored to their specific needs. That's why I signed legislation to create the Rare Disease Advisory Council last year– to ensure whenever a person is sick, regardless of what their disease is or how rare it is, that they have the best care available, and that they can reach a high quality of life as they battle their health issues.

I've expanded Medicaid, which has provided health care to over 720,000 Pennsylvanians. I've worked to reduce Pennsylvania's uninsured rate to its lowest point in history at 5.6%, well below the national average. Since I have taken office, Pennsylvania has increased enrollment in the Children's Health Insurance Program by more than twenty-two percent. The program now serves more than 180,000

Pennsylvania children. I have also been a vocal opponent of efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act and destroy Medicaid, charge seniors more for their care, and strip protections for people with pre-existing conditions. I will continue to undertake additional efforts, like creating the Rare Disease Advisory Council, to ensure that all Pennsylvanians have the support system and access to health coverage that they need and deserve.

About Life Sciences Pennsylvania

Life Sciences Pennsylvania (LSPA) is the statewide trade association for the Commonwealth's life sciences community. Founded in 1989, we work to ensure Pennsylvania has a business and public policy climate that unites and incentivizes all facets of the state's diverse life sciences economy. LSPA represents biotechnology, medical device, diagnostic, pharmaceutical, research, and investment entities, along with the myriad service providers that support the industry. Together, we unify Pennsylvania's innovators to make the Commonwealth a global life sciences leader. Learn more at <http://www.lifesciencespa.org>.