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<http://c-spanclassroomdeliberations.org/issues/single-payer-health-care-system/>

Username: students Password: C-SPANCLASSROOM

**Should the federal government fund a single-payer health care system for everyone?**

1. First, define these terms and phrases before reading the background article or using the videos from C-SPAN Classroom Deliberations. Try searching Google or a dictionary for a definition.
2. Finally, use these words in your deliberations and writing activities after you understand all sides of the issue.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Term | Definition |
| Affordable Care Act |  |
| Bankrupt |  |
| Coverage |  |
| Deductible |  |
| Employer Sponsored Health Care |  |
| Insurance Premium |  |
| Medicare |  |
| Per capita |  |
| Pharmaceuticals |  |
| Pre-existing Conditions |  |
| Return on investment |  |
| Single-Payer Health Insurance |  |



# **Background Article Questions**

**Deliberation Topic: Should the federal government fund a single-payer health care system for everyone?**

**Directions:** *To provide a background for the deliberation, answer the questions associated with each of the videos.*

**ARTICLE:** [**The Origins Of A Complex American Health Care System**](https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2017/03/27/health-care-system-origins)**-** *WBUR*

* Describe the health care decisions that were made around World War I. How did this impact current employer-based health care?
* How does Medicare work in the United States?
* Explain how health care in the United States compares to health care around the world.

**ARTICLE:** [**The Medicare-for-all paradox**](https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2018/12/14/18117917/medicare-for-all-single-payer-pros-cons-work-health-insurance)**-** *Vox*

* Describe the common problems that people face with the current health care system in the United States.
* Currently, how do most Americans get health insurance? How does this compare to other countries around the world?
* Explain how the current system of employer-sponsored health insurance was established.
* What is meant by a “single-payer health care system” like Medicare for all?
* How does the employer-sponsored health insurance system work? What are problems with the way this is set up?
* What are the advantages of employer-sponsored health care? How is this a challenge



# Background Video Questions

**Deliberation Topic: Should the federal government fund a single-payer health care system for everyone?**

**Directions:** *To provide a background for the deliberation, answer the questions associated with the vides.*

**VIDEO CLIP:** [**The Individual Mandate and the Affordable Care Act**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9069) **-** Sarah Kliff, *Vox* and Kimberly Leonard, *Washington Examiner* (3:23)

* What was the purpose of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requiring everyone to purchase insurance? What did the 2017 tax bill do to this individual mandate?
* How might the actions of the 2017 tax bill affect the coverage and affordability of health care and health insurance?

**VIDEO CLIP:** [**Public Opinion on Existing health care Policies**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9070) -Emily Barson and Tom Kise, United States of Care (2:04)

* What are the trends relating to single-payer health care and Medicare for all? According to Mr. Kise, what are the reasons for this?
* Describe the public polling relating to the responsibility that the government has with health care coverage. What is your opinion on government’s responsibility over health care?
* What are some reasons for this change in public opinion?

**VIDEO CLIP:** [**The Evolution of Universal Health Care Systems**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9071)**-** Sarah Kliff, *Vox* and Kimberly Leonard, *Washington Examiner* (1:54)

* According to Ms. Kliff, describe the proposed Democratic plans to fix the health care system and explain the reasons for this.
* Why might single-payer health care plans be an important issue leading up to the 2020 election?
* What might be potential obstacles to these plans?

**VIDEO CLIP:**[**Single-Payer Health Care Plan- Medicare for All**](https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?9072)- Bernie Sanders (I-VT) (3:30)

* According to Bernie Sanders, describe the benefits of a single-payer health care plan like Medicare for All.
* Describe the potential financial costs of the Medicare for All plan.
* How would the Medicare for All plan work?

# **Should the federal government fund a single-payer health care system for everyone?**

Directions: Use this chart to take notes on the strongest arguments for and against the question as you watch C-SPAN’s videos and read the linked articles. For each argument, include the source (writer or speaker), a direct word-for-word quote, and a summary in your own words, The use the chart in your classroom deliberation, debate or simulation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Yes, the federal government should fund a single-payer health care system for everyone.*** | ***No, the federal government should not fund a single-payer health care system for everyone.*** |
| Source:  Quote:  Summary: | Source:  Quote:  Summary: |
| Source:  Quote:  Summary: | Source:  Quote:  Summary: |
| Source:  Quote:  Summary: | Source:  Quote:  Summary: |
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