

## Presidential Candidate Questionnaire – 2020 Election

Independent Sector—the nation’s leading coalition of public charities, private foundations, and corporate philanthropy programs—requests your answers to the following questionnaire. Since our founding in 1980, we have advanced the common good by leading, strengthening, and mobilizing the charitable community in order to create a just and inclusive society of active citizens, effective institutions, and a healthy democracy. Independent Sector is a nonpartisan organization that neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for office.

Your responses will be shared with our members, who collectively represent tens of thousands of organizations of every size in every region of the country. At last tally, this network reaches over 27 million Twitter followers and more than 44 million Facebook likes. To allow us to share your full response, please keep answers to no more than 250 words. You may attach any related materials or expanded explanations of your answers. If you have any questions, or for more information, please contact Dan Cardinali at [danc@independentsector.org](mailto:danc@independentsector.org).

### CANDIDATE INFORMATION

**Candidate Name:** Amy Klobuchar

**Campaign Address:** P.O. Box 18360, Minneapolis, MN 55418

**Website:** [www.amyklobuchar.com](http://www.amyklobuchar.com)

### CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

**1) Please describe how you have been personally involved in, supported, or been affected by the nonprofit sector.**

In the nonprofit sector missions vary, but whether nonprofits are feeding the hungry, helping the sick, mentoring young people or simply providing people a warm place to sleep, they all have one thing in common: they exist to serve their communities and improve people’s lives. Senator Klobuchar saw it firsthand when she served for years on the advisory board of the PACER Center, a Minnesota nonprofit that’s dedicated to helping children and young adults with disabilities.

**2) Given its roles in delivering government services, pursuing innovative solutions, filling systemic gaps, and advocating for social change, the nonprofit sector is a key operating partner for every president. How will your administration rely on the nonprofit sector to implement your priorities, and how will you seek the sector’s input on those priorities?**

Senator Klobuchar has a strong track record of working with the nonprofit sector while serving in the Senate. She worked with Senator Hoeven to include a provision in the Energy Policy Act of 2015 to help nonprofits afford energy efficiency upgrades by creating a new grant program. And Senator Klobuchar has worked closely with nonprofits to build on proven anti-trafficking strategies, to provide federal support for things like the National Human Trafficking Hotline, and to facilitate programs to educate flight attendants and truckers to recognize and report suspected human trafficking. As President, Senator Klobuchar will continue to work closely with the nonprofit sector, consult with nonprofit leaders, and direct executive agencies to actively seek input from the nonprofit sector.

**3) Charitable giving is a central piece of our national identity and has been bolstered by the tax code for over 100 years. Do you believe that the tax code should encourage charitable giving, and in what ways?**

Senator Klobuchar supports preserving and expanding the current charitable giving deduction. She also supports reversing the regressive parts of the 2017 tax bill that discourage charitable giving.

**4) In addition to financial support, Americans also give back by investing time in their communities. What role do you believe volunteerism and national service play in facing our nation's challenges, and what policies— if any—would you pursue to encourage volunteerism and national service?**

A major focus of Senator Klobuchar's campaign has been about bridging our divides, finding common ground and restoring a sense of patriotism and unity. That's why Senator Klobuchar released a national service plan that will invest in AmeriCorps -- expanding the number of positions from 75,000 to 250,000 -- create a Climate Civilian Conservation Corps based on a proposal put forward by Washington Governor Jay Inslee, and strengthen the Peace Corps. The plan also expands the National Care Corps to address the country's growing caregiving needs and establishes a part-time volunteer national service program to create opportunities for Americans to receive emergency response and disaster-relief training and work with local government to address challenges facing their communities.

Additionally, recognizing that loan forgiveness can be a powerful tool to help encourage recent graduates and current students to enter public service and the nonprofit sector, Senator Klobuchar will overhaul the Public Service Loan Program, which is currently broken, including by expanding eligibility, requiring lenders to provide better information to borrowers about their eligibility, and streamlining reporting and verification requirements.

**5) More than 10 percent of America's private workforce is employed by nonprofit organizations, but our sector faces unique workforce development challenges. How will you help nonprofit organizations attract, develop, diversify and retain the workforce needed to best serve their communities?**

Senator Klobuchar believes more must be done to connect people to an affordable education for the jobs we have available today -- including jobs in the nonprofit sector. That's why she released her "Many Paths to Success" plan. As President, she will champion tuition-free one- and two-year community college degrees and technical certifications, expand apprenticeships, respect the dignity of work by paying people a decent living wage, and make it easier for Americans who need help to afford four-year degrees. She will work to reduce the burden of student loans, support our Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and double Pell Grants -- which, unlike loans, do not have to be repaid -- to up to \$12,000 per year and expand eligibility to families making up to \$100,000 per year.