

## DELAWARE

Voters in the blue hen state will select a new governor in 2024 following term-limited Governor John Carney's (D) exit from office. All 41 seats in the state house and 10 of the 21 seats in the state senate will also be on the ballot. Democrats are expected to maintain control of the governor's office and the legislature.

### Governor

#### Democrat Nominee

#### County Executive Matt Meyer

Matt Meyer is a former public school math teacher and small business owner. He has served as County Executive for New Castle County since 2017. Meyer won the Democratic gubernatorial primary after beating incumbent Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D) by almost 10 percentage points.

**Meyer's campaign has focused on fully funding public education and increasing teacher pay; expanding access to affordable housing; improving the quality and affordability of healthcare; ensuring the state achieves environmental goals; addressing gun violence and the opioid epidemic; ensuring police accountability; and improving ethical government.**

Public **education** has been a main feature of Meyer's campaign. He has highlighted his work as County Executive, where he invested in the building and operations of four new school-based wellness centers to support elementary students and created an annual New Castle County Government scholarship program. Looking ahead, he has vowed to increase investment in Delaware's public education system and advocate for Delaware teacher salaries to surpass that in surrounding states by the end of his first term.

To address **cost of living**, Meyer plans to propose a gasoline tax rebate based on income and location, enact a state childcare tax credit, and institute a progressive tax system.

On affordable **housing**, he has proposed policies on zoning reform, aiding first-time homebuyers, controlling construction costs, subsidizing affordability, and assisting seniors. He has also laid out strategies to prevent homelessness by enacting Good-Cause Eviction legislation, providing emergency rental assistance, enforcing the state's fair housing laws, and establishing a landlord mitigation program for accepting voucher-holding tenants.

During a campaign reporting period running from January to August, Meyer's campaign registered over \$800,000 in contributions, which was added to the \$1.7 million he carried over from 2023.

Meyer will face Republican House Minority Leader Mike Ramone in the general election. The Cook Political Report and Sabato's Crystall Ball both rank the gubernatorial race as solid Democratic.

*Trivia: Meyer worked on then-U.S. senator Joe Biden's first presidential campaign in 1988.*