

# Hospital Districts Can Save You

What exactly is Hospital District and why are you asked to vote for its commissioners?

## Hospital District

Public Hospital Districts are considered municipal governments under Washington state law (RCW 70.44) and as such, are governed by a board of commissioners who are elected to the position and serve a 6 year term, according to the Public Hospital District Commissioner Guide (published by the Association of Washington Public Hospital Districts).

There are two hospital districts in Kittitas County and each has 5 commissioners. These commissioners are nonpartisan and elected ‘at large’ in that they represent the entire district and not a particular area within the district’s boundaries.

Hospital District #1 (HD1) covers lower county and provides care as Kittitas Valley Healthcare. It also operates KVH hospital. Hospital District #2 (HD2) covers upper county and provides care as Medic One ambulance service as well as some limited urgent care to upper county residents. Only voters in upper county can vote for commissioners to HD2 while only lower county voters can elect commissioners to HD1.

The Board of Commissioners sets hospital district policy and operational organization, including the delivery of quality care. The Board’s role is to adopt general policies and to delegate day-to-day operations to the district administrator.

### ***How are Hospital Districts funded?***

A Hospital Board of Commissioners can raise money through property tax levies and bonds as well as through patient fees for healthcare services. To fund its services, HD1 relies mostly on patient revenues generated from medical treatment at Kittitas Valley Hospital and its clinics, while HD2 relies on property taxes paid by upper county property owners.

Your vote for hospital district commissioner will help determine what healthcare services are available to you, service location, potential tax burden, and more. Make your vote count. Go to [VoteWA](#) to discover which Hospital District you reside within.

**Vote. It matters.**