



Service Descriptions

This document contains a comprehensive list and description of the services provided by the Department of State Health Services.

- Each service description includes a basic description of the **purpose** of the service, the **eligibility criteria** for the service, **contact information**, and a **website**, if available.
- An alphabetical listing (or index) of the services listed in this document precedes the actual service descriptions, which are arranged by the organizational divisions of DSHS.

If you wish to contact the individual(s) listed for a given service by email, the standard email for DSHS employees is `firstname.lastname@dshs.state.tx.us`. (Hyperlinks are not provided for email addresses to increase security of the DSHS website.)

If you have questions about the document as a whole, please contact Hallie Overton at 512-458-7111 ext 6537.

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DSHS Service Description Summary



Division for Operational Services

Health Data/Information

Purpose

Provides a focal point for collection, analysis and dissemination of useful health-related data and information to improve health in Texas.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Norma McNab (512) 458-7261
Center for Health Statistics

Web Page

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/chs>

Vital Statistics Registration

Purpose

Provides legal state registration for all births, deaths and acknowledgment of paternity in Texas, as well as data collection and dissemination on these registrations, adoptions, marriages and divorces.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Geraldine Harris (512) 458-7366
Vital Statistics Unit

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/bvs

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Anatomical Gift Education

Purpose

Provides education on organ, eye, and tissue donation, serving as information and referral source.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Sam Cooper (512) 458-7150 or 1-800-222-3986
Purchased Health Services Unit

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/agep/default.shtm

Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Screening

Purpose

Screens for and identifies breast and cervical cancers in an effort to reduce breast and cervical cancer mortality.

Eligibility

Must have income at or below 200% federal poverty level with no other pay source. Must be age 18-64 for Cervical Cancer Screening. Must be woman age 50-64 for breast cancer screening.

Contact Information

Cindy Jones, Ph.D., R.N. (512) 458-7796
Preventative and Primary Care Unit

Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women (CPW)

Purpose

Assists with access to medical, social, educational, and other services for women with high-risk pregnancy and children below age 21 with a health condition or risk.

Eligibility

Must be Medicaid eligible woman with high-risk pregnancy or Medicaid eligible child age 0-20 with a health condition or risk or children and pregnant women meeting the requirements as defined in Title V (including at or below 185% federal poverty level). (Medicaid eligibility is determined at HHSC.)

Contact Information

Michelle Long (512) 458-7111 x3885
Health Screening/Case Management Unit

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/caseman/caseman.thm

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

**Children with Special Health Care Needs - Comprehensive Medical,
Support and Enabling Services**

Purpose

Provides such health care benefits as medical services, family support services, diagnosis and evaluation services, case management, transportation related services, and insurance premium payment assistance services. Services are provide through a network of enrolled providers and through community-based contractors. Note: In the event that a waiting list for health care benefits exists, limitations on diagnosis and evaluation services and family support services are required by program rule. A waiting list was initiated in October 2001.

Eligibility

Must have income at or below 200% federal poverty level with spend-down allowance, resident of Texas and younger than 21 years of age with a chronic physical or developmental condition OR person of any age with cystic fibrosis.

Contact Information

Sam Cooper (512) 458-7355 or 1-800-252-8023
Purchased Health Services Unit

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/default.shtm

Epilepsy Comprehensive Outpatient Services

Purpose

Provides comprehensive epilepsy outpatient services including diagnosis, treatment, case management, education and support services.

Eligibility

Must be uninsured or underinsured with income below 200% federal poverty level and epilepsy or seizure-like symptoms.

Contact Information

Cindy Jones, Ph.D., R.N. (512) 458-7796
Preventative and Primary Care Unit

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/epilepsy/default.thm

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Family Planning

Purpose

Provides comprehensive family planning services including education and outreach, and referral (Titles V, XX, XIX), and infrastructure support (Title X).

Eligibility

Meet the requirements as defined in Title V and at or below 185% federal poverty level (FPL); meet the requirements as defined in Title X and Title XX and at or below 250% FPL; meet the requirements as defined in Title XX and at or below 150% FPL; meet the requirements as defined in Title XX and a Texas resident; meet the requirements as defined in Title XIX: meet Medicaid eligibility (income at or below 17% FPL) or 60 days postpartum at or below 185% FPL.

Contact Information

Cindy Jones, Ph.D., R.N. (512) 458-7796
Preventative and Primary Care Unit

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/women/default.htm

Farmers Market Nutrition

Purpose

Provides fresh fruits and vegetables to WIC clients and promotes use and awareness of local farmers' markets.

Eligibility

Must meet WIC eligibility requirements. Provided to women and children 1-5 years old who are WIC clients.

Contact Information

Mike Montgomery (512) 458-7444 ext. 3408
Nutrition Services Section

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Genetics Services

Purpose

Directs genetic education services, population-based projects and clinical services to improve health of those with genetic disorders.

Eligibility

Meet the requirements as defined in Title V (below 185% federal poverty level) or Medicaid eligible person 0-21 years old; parent of any age; pregnant woman (Medicaid eligibility is determined at HHSC.)

Contact Information

Margaret Drummond-Borg (512) 458-7111 x2193
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/genetics/home.htm

Hemophilia Assistance

Purpose

Provides financial assistance to adults with hemophilia for the reimbursement of blood factor products.

Eligibility

Must be diagnosed with hemophilia, 21 years of age or older, Texas resident, income at or below 200% of federal poverty level, and not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare.

Contact Information

Sam Cooper (512) 458-7150 or 1-800-222-3986
Purchased Health Services

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/hemophilia/default.shtm

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Indigent Health Care

Purpose

Provides the following basic health care services: immunizations, medical screenings, annual physical examinations, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, rural health clinics, laboratory and X-ray, family planning, physician, skilled nursing facility, and payment for three prescription drugs a month. Counties may choose to provide optional health care services such as: ambulatory surgical center, diabetic and colostomy medical supplies and equipment, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, dental care, vision care, and psychological counseling. All services must be medically necessary.

Eligibility

Must not be categorically eligible for Medicaid, with income ranges from at or below 21% federal poverty level up to 50% federal poverty level. Household resources may not exceed \$2000 or \$3000 for households where an aged or disabled person lives in the home.

Contact Information

Cindy Jones, Ph.D., R.N. (512) 458-7796
Preventative and Primary Care

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/cihcp/default.htm

Kidney Health Care

Purpose

Provides financial assistance for drugs, medical and travel services to or on behalf of clients with end stage renal disease or who have had a kidney transplant.

Eligibility

Must have adjusted gross income of less than \$60,000/yr; have diagnosis of end stage renal disease (ESRD); resident of Texas; meet the Medicare criteria for end stage renal disease; be receiving regular course of chronic dialysis treatments or have had a kidney transplant; submit application through processing facility; may not be eligible for full Medicaid benefits.

Contact Information

Sam Cooper (512) 458-7150 or 1-800-222-3986
Purchased Health Services

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/kidney/default.htm

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Maternal and Child Health Services (Title V)

Purpose

Provides prenatal care, child health, dysphasia, dental for children, population-based activities, enabling services such as case management and education.

Eligibility

Must be Texas resident at or below 185% federal poverty level and not eligible for other programs that provide the same services. Must be a child ages 0-21 or woman of child-bearing age.

Contact Information

Fouad Berrahou (512) 458-7321
Title V & Health Resources Development Office

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/mch/default.htm

Newborn Hearing Screening

Purpose

The Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI) program is the state's newborn hearing screening program. Around 200 birth facilities are screening newborns for hearing loss before the babies go home from the birth visit. Early detection of hearing loss allows babies to receive early intervention services and develop the neural pathways in the brain that are related to sound and hearing.

Eligibility

Available to newborns in participating birth facilities.

Contact Information

Elaine Braslow (512) 458-7111 x3829
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/newborn/newborn.htm

Newborn Screening

Purpose

Provides screening of all newborns for five disorders; provides follow-up on all abnormal results to ensure the primary care provider knows the result of the screen and that appropriate repeat screening, confirmatory testing, referral to specialist, and initial treatment are provided.

Eligibility

Available to all newborns

Contact Information

Margaret Drummond-Borg (512) 458-7111 x2193 or x2129
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/newborn/newborn.htm

Primary Health Care

Purpose

Provides comprehensive primary care services including health screening; diagnosis and treatment services (laboratory, x-ray, nuclear medicine); health education; and emergency services for eligible women, children and men.

Eligibility

Must reside in Texas with income at or below 150% federal poverty level and not eligible for other programs providing same services.

Contact Information

Cindy Jones, Ph.D., R.N. (512) 458-7796
Preventative and Primary Care

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/phc/default.htm

Program for Amplification for Children of Texas (PACT)

Purpose

Provides hearing loss identification, diagnosis, and treatment; disseminates information; and promotes awareness.

Eligibility

Must be child aged 0-20 eligible for Medicaid or CSHCN with permanent hearing loss.

Contact Information

Ruth Powers (512) 458-7724
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/audio/program.htm

**Division of
Family and
Community
Health
Services**

Public Health Dental

Purpose

Provides preventive services for preschool children and school-aged children in targeted age groups.

Eligibility

Must be resident of Texas; minor child; establish financial need based on USDA poverty guidelines for school lunch, Head Start and WIC; elementary school age targeted to 2nd and 3rd graders

Contact Information

Linda Altenhoff (512) 458-7745
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/dental/default.htm

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Purpose

Provides nutrition education; promotes and supports breastfeeding; provides referrals to health care; provides supplemental foods including infant formula.

Eligibility

Must be pregnant or postpartum woman or a child under age 5, have income at or below 185% federal poverty level, reside in Texas, and have at least one nutrition risk condition (i.e., medical or dietary-based condition).

Contact Information

Mike Montgomery (512) 458-7111 x 3408
Nutrition Services Section

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/wichd/default.htm

Spinal Screening

Purpose

Provides screening, tracking and referral for abnormal spinal curves in school-age children.

Eligibility

Available to public/private school students between grades 6-9.

Contact Information

Elaine Braslow (512) 458-7111 x 3829
Health Screening/Case Management

Texas Health Steps Dental Services

Purpose

Informs recipients of available services including dental checkups, diagnosis, prevention and treatment as well as help finding a dentist, set appointments and assist with questions about dental health concerns.

Eligibility

Must be Medicaid eligible and 0-20 years of age. (Medicaid eligibility is determined at HHSC.)

Contact Information

Raymond Andrews (512) 458-7745
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/thsteps/default.htm

Texas Health Steps Medical Services

Purpose

Informs recipients of available services; provides periodic preventive medical checkups, diagnosis, and treatment. Provides medical checkups and referral for additional follow-up as needed.

Eligibility

Must be Medicaid eligible and 0-20 years of age. (Medicaid eligibility is determined at HHSC.)

Contact Information

Raymond Andrews (512) 458-7745
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/thsteps/default.htm

Vision and Hearing Screening

Purpose

Trains and certifies screeners to identify individuals who need remedial vision and hearing services and provides screening equipment.

Eligibility

Available to school and day care children in Texas aged 4-18.

Contact Information

Elijah Brown (512) 458-7111 x3829
Health Screening/Case Management

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/vhs/default.htm

Adolescent Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services

Purpose

Provides long term residential care to adolescents.

Eligibility

Youth (10 - 17 years of age) who are diagnosed as emotionally or behaviorally disturbed and referred for admission by the Texas Department of Family and Protective or by the Local Mental Health Authority or by a state hospital.

Contact Information

Eddie Greenfield (254) 745-5101
Waco Center for Youth

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/wacocenterforyouth/default.shtm

Inpatient and Outpatient Infectious Disease Care and Treatment

Purpose

Provides inpatient care and treatment for people with tuberculosis and specialized clinics for Hansen's disease and tuberculosis, specialty consultations, and outpatient aftercare. Diagnostic support for other programs.

Eligibility

Texas residents with confirmed tuberculosis or Hansen's disease requiring long term hospitalization to treat or cure the disease, to receive specialized consultations, or to receive outpatient aftercare.

Contact Information

Jim Elkins (210) 531-4515
Texas Center for Infectious Disease

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/tcid/default.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Adult Forensic Services (including maximum security)

Purpose

Provides adult inpatient forensic psychiatric services provided as result of patient being committed under Texas Code of Criminal Procedures.

Eligibility

Individuals committed under the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures or via civil commitment.

Contact Information

James E. Smith (940) 552-4000
North Texas State Hospital - Vernon

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/northtexassh/default.shtm

Adolescent Forensic Services

Purpose

Provides adolescent inpatient forensic psychiatric services in a maximum security treatment environment as result of court order.

Eligibility

Persons are admitted as a condition of probation or parole. In addition, individuals may be committed to residential care under the Texas Family Code, Chapter 55, Subchapter C or D or if determined to be manifestly dangerous.

Contact Information

James E. Smith (940) 552-4000
North Texas State Hospital - Vernon

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/northtexassh/default.shtm

Inpatient Psychiatric Services

Purpose

Stabilizes and returns clients to the community for aftercare services.

Eligibility

Persons who are mentally ill and a danger to self or others or at substantial risk of deterioration if not treated

Contact Information

Kenny Dudley (512) 206-4616
Hospitals Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/default.shtm

Mental Health Community-Based Services to Adults

Purpose

Assists consumers in functioning in the community through provision of the following specific services: 1) 24-hour emergency screening and rapid crisis stabilization services; 2) community-based crisis residential services or hospitalization; 3) community-based assessments, including the development of inter-disciplinary treatment plans and diagnosis and evaluation services; 4) family support services, including respite care; 5) case management services; 6) medication-related services, including medication clinics, laboratory monitoring, medication education, mental health maintenance education, and the provision of medication; and 7) psychosocial rehabilitation programs, including social support activities, independent living skills, and vocational training. A case manager is assigned for each person discharged from a department facility who is in need of care.

Eligibility

Adults who have severe and persistent mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, major depression, bipolar disorder, or other severely disabling mental disorders which require crisis resolution or ongoing and long-term support and treatment.

Contact Information

Mike Maples (512) 206-5968
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mentalhealth.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Mental Health Community-Based Services to Children

Purpose

Assists consumers in functioning in the community through provision of the following specific services: 1) 24-hour emergency screening and rapid crisis stabilization services; 2) community-based crisis residential services or hospitalization; 3) community-based assessments, including the development of inter-disciplinary treatment plans and diagnosis and evaluation services; 4) family support services, including respite care; 5) case management services; 6) medication-related services, including medication clinics, laboratory monitoring, medication education, mental health maintenance education, and the provision of medication; and 7) psychosocial rehabilitation programs, including social support activities, independent living skills, and vocational training. A case manager is assigned for each person discharged from a department facility who is in need of care.

Eligibility

Children ages 3 through 17 with a diagnosis of mental illness who exhibit serious emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders and who: 1) have a serious functional impairment or 2) are at risk of disruption of a preferred living or child care environment due to psychiatric symptoms or 3) are enrolled in a school system's special education program because of a serious emotional disturbance.

Contact Information

Frank Vega (512) 206-4832
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mentalhealth.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

NORTHSTAR — Mental Health, Substance Abuse and COPSD Community-Based Services to Children

Purpose

Provides coordinated mental health, substance abuse, and COPSD (co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders) community-based services to adults and children provided in the service area by a network of providers, with care managed by a contracted Behavioral Health Organization.

Eligibility

Medicaid recipients: Most TANF and SSI recipients who reside in Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Hunt, Kaufman, Navarro and Rockwall counties (service area) are automatically enrolled because of Medicaid status. Non-Medicaid adults who reside in service area must have countable incomes (gross income less allowable expenses) less than or equal to 200% federal poverty level, must meet clinical eligibility criteria, and cannot have other insurance for the service sought.

Contact Information

Patrick Gillies (512) 206-5444
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhprograms/NorthStarhomepage.shtm

Primary and Secondary Care Physical Health Services

Purpose

Provides outpatient multi-specialty primary and secondary care physical health services.

Eligibility

Persons meeting federal poverty guidelines living in Cameron, Willacy, Hidalgo, Kleberg, Kenedy, Jim Wells, Jim Hogg, Webb, Starr, Zapata, Duval, and Brooks counties.

Contact Information

Sonia Hernandez-Keeble (956) 430-2411
Rio Grande State Hospital

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhhospitals/riograndesc/default.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)

Purpose

Provides for behavioral health and housing services to persons who are seriously mentally ill (which may include a co-occurring substance use disorder) and who are without a regular means of shelter.

Eligibility

Individuals with mental illness who are homeless

Contact Information

Greg Gibson (512) 206-4695
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/mentalhealth.shtm

Substance Abuse Prevention Services

Purpose

Prevents use and abuse of alcohol and illegal drugs among youth and adults through evidence-based prevention curriculum programs, support of prevention resources centers, community coalitions, public awareness and media campaigns.

Eligibility

General population; youth at higher risk for substance abuse

Contact Information

Esther Betts (512) 206-5865
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Substance Abuse Outreach, Screening, Assessment and Referral Services (OSAR)

Purpose

Reduces alcohol and drug abuse through adult OSAR (outreach, screening, assessment, and referral) services. At least one OSAR office is located in each health and human services region and serves as the front door to substance abuse services, approving residential treatment admissions and coordinating care for high severity residential clients.

Eligibility

Individuals assessed as substance abusers or dependent.

Contact Information

Phil Storey (512) 206-5873
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

Substance Abuse Pharmacotherapy Services

Purpose

Provides pharmacotherapy services to those individuals who are IV drug users and/or dependent on opioids.

Eligibility

Individuals identified as IV drug users and/or opioid dependent

Contact Information

Calvin Holloway (512) 206-5877
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Residential and Ambulatory Detoxification Services

Purpose

Provides residential and ambulatory detoxification to substance dependent or abusing individuals.

Eligibility

Adults and youth seeking treatment services for substance abuse or dependency. Priority populations identified by the federal block grant include pregnant injecting drug users, pregnant substance abusers, and injecting drug users. Other priority populations include youth who currently abuse, have abused, or are at risk of abusing substances, people who have or are at risk of having human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection through substance abusing behavior, substance abusers who are at risk of institutionalization or who currently are served in mental health facilities, substance abusers who have had children placed under the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services, women with children or women of child-bearing years, and indigent veterans who have received an honorable discharge.

Contact Information

Calvin Holloway (512) 206-5877
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

Residential and Outpatient Treatment Services

Purpose

Provides intensive and supportive residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services to individuals who are substance abusing or dependent.

Eligibility

Adults and youth seeking treatment services for substance abuse or dependency. Priority populations identified by the federal block grant include pregnant injecting drug users, pregnant substance abusers, and injecting drug users. Other priority populations include youth who currently abuse, have abused, or are at risk of abusing substances, people who have or are at risk of having human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection through substance abusing behavior, substance abusers who are at risk of institutionalization or who currently are served in mental health facilities, substance abusers who have had children placed under the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services, women with children or women of child-bearing years, and indigent veterans who have received an honorable discharge.

Contact Information

Calvin Holloway (512) 206-5877
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

HIV Outreach and Early Intervention Among Substance Abusing or Dependent Clients

Purpose

Provides substance abuse services targeted at individuals at risk for HIV or who are HIV positive. Includes HIV outreach and HIV early intervention services as well as coordinated training services among DSHS providers.

Eligibility

Individuals at risk for HIV and individuals who are HIV positive

Contact Information

Dan Rowllins (512) 206-5866
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

**Division of
Mental Health
and
Substance
Abuse Services**

**Texas Co-Occurring Psychiatric and Substance Abuse Disorders
(COPSD) Services**

Purpose

Provides integrated mental health and substance abuse treatment services through specially trained providers to clients with co-occurring disorders.

Eligibility

Individuals with co-occurring psychiatric and substance abuse disorders

Contact Information

A.J. Ernst (512) 206-4763
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

**Substance Abuse Intervention for Pregnant Women and Women with
Children**

Purpose

Provides pregnant and post-partum intervention services. Specialized female services.

Eligibility

Medically indigent pregnant women or women with children

Contact Information

Judy Brow (512) 206-5884
Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Section

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/sa/default.shtm

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Abstinence Education

Purpose

Provides funding and technical assistance to community organizations that contract with DSHS to perform abstinence education activities. Activities include classes, mentoring, counseling and adult supervised initiatives in addition to conducting media campaigns targeting the abstinence message to teens and their parents.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Karen Flowers (512) 458-7111 x 6468
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/abstain

Biochemistry and Genetics

Purpose

Provides testing for women, children and newborns to identify potentially devastating diseases and defects as well as testing for newborn screening program, state hospitals and state schools, Texas Health Steps screening of children and adolescents, blood lead levels of children and adolescents, screening of expectant mothers to determine risk of Down's syndrome, Trisomy 18, neural tube defects, and other abnormalities in newborns.

Eligibility

Determined by DSHS programs, other state agencies, clinics, hospitals

Contact Information

Eldridge Hutcheson, Ph.D. (512) 458-7430
Laboratory Operations

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/default.shtm

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Birth Defects Epidemiology and Surveillance

Purpose

Identifies and describes the patterns of birth defects in Texas through operation of an active surveillance system. Collaborates in finding causes of birth defects, working towards prevention and linking families with services.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Mark A. Canfield, Ph.D. (512) 458-7232
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Cancer Epidemiology and Surveillance

Purpose

Maintains the Texas Cancer Registry for collection, analysis, and dissemination of population-based cancer incidence data. Identifies and describes the patterns of cancer in Texas and conducts epidemiologic studies of cancer.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Nancy S. Weiss, MPH, Ph.D. (512) 458-7523
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/tcr/default.htm

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Chronic Disease Prevention

Purpose

Performs population-based activities and interventions to reduce the health and economic burden of tobacco, obesity, physical inactivity, poor nutrition, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, arthritis, asthma, and Alzheimer's disease. Enhances the capacity of local communities to assess, plan, conduct interventions, and evaluate progress in reducing chronic disease. Interventions are focused on high-risk populations.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Barbara Keir (512) 458-7200 or (512) 458-7111 x2610
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/bdip/default.htm

Environmental Epidemiology and Toxicology

Purpose

Conducts disease surveillance, public health risk assessments and consultations, and epidemiologic and toxicological investigations. Uses tools of epidemiology and toxicology to understand and prevent toxic exposures and illnesses, identify people at risk, and promote actions to protect them. Activities include water fluoridation, child lead poisoning prevention, hazardous substances emergency events surveillance, occupational condition surveillance, and pesticide exposure surveillance activities.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

John F. Villanacci, Ph.D., NREMT-1 (512) 458-7269
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/default.htm

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Environmental Sciences

Purpose

Performs the chemical and radiological testing of public-drinking systems that is required by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Act. Certified by the EPA as the Principal State Drinking Water Laboratory for Texas. Performs chemical and radiological analyses of indoor air, consumer products, tissue, and environmental samples to support public health environmental programs. Provides nuclear emergency response services to nuclear power plant sites.

Eligibility

Residents of Texas

Contact Information

Dwight Schaeper, Ph.D. (512) 458-7587
Laboratory Operations

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/es_intro.shtm

HIV and STD Prevention

Purpose

Prevents and controls spread of HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases by planning, implementing and supporting activities through funding awards, provision of resources, capacity building, training, technical assistance, policy development, and monitoring activities.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Felipe Rocha (512) 490-2505
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/hiv/std

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

HIV Treatment Services

Purpose

Enhances the lives of individuals with HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases by providing life-sustaining or curative medications to treat these conditions, and by ensuring that high-quality clinical and critical social services are available and accessible statewide.

Eligibility

Medications and Medical care services: Texas Residents with HIV diagnosis. Not covered by Medicaid or other payment source. For medications, income must be below 200% federal poverty level

Contact Information

Felipe Rocha (512) 490-2505
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/hiv/std/meds

HIV/STD Epidemiology and Surveillance

Purpose

Collects, analyzes and interprets data on HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in Texas. Uses this information to characterize the epidemics of HIV and STD and to plan, develop, and evaluate HIV/STD prevention and services programs.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Sharon K. Melville, MD, MPH (512) 490-2505
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd

Immunizations

Purpose

Improves the quality of life and longevity of people in Texas by achieving and maintaining a vaccine-preventable disease-free environment and serves as a safety net for persons without other means to be vaccinated and protected from disease.

Eligibility

Residents of Texas — primarily children through 18 years of age who are: Medicaid eligible; uninsured; underinsured; Native American; or Alaskan Natives

Contact Information

Jack Sims (512) 458-7284
Disease Prevention and Intervention Section

Web Page

www.immunizetexas.com

Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance

Purpose

Uses the principles of epidemiology to prevent and reduce infectious disease morbidity and mortality in Texas. Activities include epidemiology, surveillance (reporting), outbreak investigation, education, outreach, bioterrorism preparedness, consultation, information, and other activities involving Hepatitis C, TB, zoonotic diseases, and other infectious diseases. Population services.

Eligibility

Residents of Texas

Contact Information

Susan Penfield, MD (512) 458-7745
Infectious Disease Control

Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance

Purpose

Collects and analyzes injury data and publishes statistical reports. Uses the principles of epidemiology to prevent and reduce injury morbidity and mortality in Texas.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

John F. Villanacci, Ph.D., NREMT-1 (512) 458-7269
Epidemiology and Surveillance

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Microbiological Services

Purpose

Provides laboratory testing in areas of bacteriology, virology, serology, mycobacteriology, and parasitology. These tests may be for diagnostic, reference, and/or surveillance testing for physicians, hospitals, reference laboratories, DSHS programs, and state hospitals and state schools. These tests include testing both clinical and environmental specimens for bioterrorism agents.

Eligibility

Residents of Texas

Contact Information

Elizabeth Delamater, Ph.D. (512) 458-7592
Laboratory Operations

Web Page

www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/default.shtm

Pharmacy Services

Purpose

Ensures departmental compliance with local, state, and federal requirements dealing with the receiving, storage, repackaging, relabeling, and shipping of medications to prevent, diagnose or treat communicable diseases or conditions. The target population is patients seen by participating local health departments or DSHS regional clinics, Title V contractors, UT Health Science Centers, UT Medical Branch, hospitals, and private providers.

Eligibility

Residents in Texas who are referred through the following services: Immunizations, Tuberculosis and Hansen's Disease Control, HIV/STD Prevention, Refugee Health Screening, Birth Defects, Maternal and Child Health Services.

Contact Information

Robert Nash, R.Ph. (512) 458-7500
Disease Prevention and Intervention Section

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/pharmacy

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

Preparedness and Response

Purpose

Prepares Texas to effectively detect, investigate, control and prevent natural and manmade public health disasters. Includes Strategic National Stockpile (SNS); CHEMPACK; Disaster Mental Health Services; Health Alert Network; public health preparedness education; emergency preparedness; hospital preparedness; radiation response; Emerging Infections Program; binational public health preparedness and response; agro terrorism preparedness.

Eligibility

Residents of Texas

Contact Information

Art Bardwell (512) 458-7219
Community Preparedness Section

Refugee Health Screening

Purpose

Brings newly arrived official refugees and other program eligible immigrants into the public health system for health assessments and referral. The target conditions are those of public health importance, or those which would impede the refugees' resettlement process.

Eligibility

Official Refugees, Amerasian-immigrants, and Cuban and Haitian entrants and parolees (for 90 days from date of arrival in the US); Asylees (for 90 days from date granted asylum); Certified victims of severe forms of trafficking (for 90 days from date certified)

Contact Information

Susan Penfield, MD (512) 458-7745
Infectious Disease Control

Safe Riders Child Passenger Safety

Purpose

Provides child safety seats and education on child passenger safety

Eligibility

Recipients must self-certify that they are of low-income status and agree to be educated for access to a safety seat

Contact Information

Frank Luera (512) 458-7111 x2207 or (512) 458-7111 x2205
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/saferiders

**Division of
Prevention and
Preparedness
Services**

School Health

Purpose

Provides technical assistance and funding to communities seeking to enhance health services available in schools.

Eligibility

School-based health center funding targets medically underserved school-age populations. School health related services & technical assistance provided/delivered by the Education Service Center staff and/or state employees are population-based, targeting school-age children, their families, schools and communities.

Contact Information

Marion Stoutner (512) 458-7279
Health Promotion

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/schoolhealth

Texas Poison Center Network

Purpose

Receives funding through an interagency contract with the Commission on State Emergency Communications (State 9-1-1). Administers contracts which fund the six regional poison centers in Texas that provide 24/7 treatment recommendations and information. Conducts public and professional education activities to promote poison safety. Collects cases in a centralized database for analysis by a DSHS epidemiologist and development of prevention strategies.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Ernest Oertli, CVM, PhD (512) 458-7268
Epidemiology and Surveillance

Tuberculosis and Hansen’s Disease Control

Purpose

Conducts tuberculosis (TB) screening, investigation, education, monitoring, consultation, clinical case management, and treatment. Activities include community based treatment for Hansen’s Disease and TB.

Eligibility

Persons with or at risk of tuberculosis disease or latent tuberculosis infection; all persons in Texas diagnosed with Hansen’s Disease; as well as contacts to cases, and suspects. Also, general population.

Contact Information

Susan Penfield, MD (512) 458-7745
Infectious Disease Control

Women’s Health Laboratory

Purpose

Provides laboratory testing; consultation; education and training; and applied research in the area of women’s health and infectious diseases.

Eligibility

Determined by the referring DSHS programs, other state agencies, clinics or hospitals

Contact Information

Kathleen R. Allen, MBA, CT(ASCP) (210) 534-8857 x2357 or 1-888-440-5002
Laboratory Services Section

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/women/wh_lab.htm

Zoonosis Control

Purpose

Protects the people of Texas against diseases transmitted from animals. Activities include epidemiology and surveillance; dissemination of information; provision of Animal Friendly grants; and Animal Control Officer training.

Eligibility

Specific requirements for applicants for Animal Friendly grant applicants (for sterilization of animals); otherwise not requirements.

Contact Information

Susan Penfield, MD (512) 458-7745
Infectious Disease Control

**Division of
Regulatory
Services**

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Trauma Care Systems

Purpose

Improves quality of trauma and emergency medical care to people who are victims of injury or illness by encouraging hospitals to provide trauma care, increasing the availability and quality of emergency medical care, and coordinating care within regions to assure the minimum amount of time from emergency onset to definitive care.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Steve Janda (512) 834-6700
Health Care Quality Section - EMS/Trauma Coordination Office

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/hcqs/ems/emshome.thm

Health Care and Consumer Safety Entity Licensing

Purpose

Protects the public by ensuring minimum standards for the provision of care or services by regulated entities are met prior to the issuance of a license. Regulated areas include: Health Care Facilities, Emergency Medical Services; Foods, Drugs; Cosmetics, Medical Devices; Radiation; Toxic Substances; and General Sanitation.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Renee Clack (512) 834-6700
Health Care Quality Section – Regulatory Licensing

Consumer Protection Policy and Standards

Purpose

Ensures a safe food and drug supply in Texas, protects the public and environmental health, and protects people and the environment from public health threats of excessive exposure to radiation by setting standards and industry guidelines for public health protection, trains inspectional staff, provides quality assurance reviews of inspection reports and audits of inspectional activities, provides consumer and industry education, and provides emergency response.

- Milk and dairy regulation - ensures the safety and quality of milk, milk products and frozen desserts.
- Meat safety - ensures that meat standards are at least equal to the USDA standards, that technical advice and guidance is given to meat processors, and that processors of renderable materials are inspected.
- Manufactured foods regulation - ensures safety, proper and truthful labeling, inspection of food manufacturers, wholesale food distributors, food warehouses, and food salvage establishments to prevent the sale of contaminated, adulterated or unsafe food.
- Retail foods regulation - ensures that food provided to the public from retail food establishments is safe, and provide technical support and training to local health departments.
- Seafood safety - protects consumers from shellfish and crab meat diseases and other health hazards transmissible by these products produced in or imported into Texas.
- Drugs and medical devices regulation - protects public health by preventing the sale of contaminated, adulterated or unsafe drugs, medical devices, or cosmetics, and inspect drug and device manufacturers, distributors, and salvagers.
- Product safety - reduces incidence of injury, illness, and death associated with use or storage of hazardous consumer products and chemicals.
- Toxic substances regulation - protects public health from exposure to toxic substances, specifically asbestos, lead, indoor air contaminants, and polychlorinated biphenyls.
- General Sanitation - ensures safety of youth camps, migrant labor camps, and pesticide applicators; ensures compliance with environmental health and sanitation laws and rules; provides rodent and vector control standards; and ensures appropriate sanitation of institutions, public lodging, certain recreation areas, and public swimming pools, tattoo and body piercing studios and tanning facilities.
- Radiation Control – ensures the safety and quality of x-ray devices, radioactive materials including uranium, and radioactive waste disposal.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Steve McAndrew

(512) 719-0232

Environmental and Consumer Safety Section - Policy Standards and Quality Assurance Unit

Consumer Protection Compliance Monitoring

Purpose

Ensures a safe food and drug supply in Texas, protects the public and environmental health, and protects people and the environment from public health threats of excessive exposure to radiation by providing inspections, complaint tracking and resolution, technical assistance and special investigations of all programs listed in the Policy Standards and Quality Assurance Unit above. Additionally, the Inspections Unit works with federal counterparts at the Food and Drug Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to eliminate duplication through partnerships and contracts and to ensure seamless regulation of the various products, commodities and activities at the national and state level.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Alice Rogers (512) 834-6629
Environmental and Consumer Safety Section - Inspections Unit

Health Facility Compliance

Purpose

Protects health and safety of consumers receiving health care services in Texas through surveys/inspections (announced and unannounced) and complaint investigations. Regulated facilities include general, psychiatric, and special hospitals; EMS firms and education programs; first responder organizations; narcotic treatment programs; crisis stabilization units; abortion facilities; ambulatory surgical centers; birthing centers; end stage renal disease facilities; and substance abuse centers.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Derek Jackovich (512) 834-6700
Health Care Quality Section - Patient Quality Care Unit

Health Care Professional Regulation

Purpose

Protects the public by establishing and enforcing minimum standards for the provision of care by regulated individual health care providers, including: Athletic Trainers, Bottled Water Vendors; Code Enforcement Officers; Contact Lens Dispensers; Sex Offender Treatment Providers; Dietitians; Fitters and Dispensers of Hearing Instruments; Food Managers; Marriage & Family Therapists; Massage Therapists; Medical Physicists; Medical Radiologic Technologists; Midwives; Opticians; Orthotists and Prosthetists; Perfusionists; Pesticide Applicators (Non-commercial); Professional Counselors; Respiratory Care Practitioners; Sanitarians; Social Workers; Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists; and Substance Abuse and Chemical Dependency Counselors. Activities include licensing/certifying, testing, auditing, and complaint investigations. In addition, the Council on Sex Offender Treatment provides a comprehensive case management system for sexually violent predators who are civilly committed and the Medical Advisory Board makes professional medical recommendations to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) as to the ability of individuals to operate a motor vehicle and/or a handgun safely.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Debbie Peterson (512) 834-6628
Health Care Quality Section - Professional Licensing and Certification Unit

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/hcqs/plc/plcd.htm

Consumer Protection Meat Safety

Purpose

Ensures that meat is produced from healthy animals, that animals are slaughtered humanely, that meat is prepared in a sanitary manner, that meat contains no harmful ingredients and that meat is appropriately labeled through inspections; also documents instances of non-compliance and provides technical assistance to meat processing facilities.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Lee Jan, D.V.M. (512) 719-0205
Environmental and Consumer Safety Section - Meat Safety Assurance Unit

**Center for
Program
Coordination**

Office for the Elimination of Health Disparities

Purpose

Reduces health disparities among special or under-served populations across Texas by providing support throughout the DSHS agency; coordinates program staff to insure that health disparities are addressed in services provided to increase capacity for improving health status. Provides leadership via collaborative development of health policies and programs that will eliminate health disparities. Promotes cultural competency, research, and evaluation of health promotion and disease prevention program activities.

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

Kimberly A. McCoy-Daniels (512) 458-7629
Office for the Elimination of Health Disparities

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/minority/

Office of Border Health

Purpose

Identifies and prevents consumer, environmental, and community health hazards along the Texas-Mexico Border in a bi-national effort that coordinates with local communities and U. S. and Mexican health entities. Serves as the principal point of contact for coordination of public health issues with Mexico. Supports development of local sister-city bi-national health councils and increases the proportion of border communities addressing measurable Healthy Border 2010 goals. Established the Texas Outreach Office (TORO) of the US-Mexico Border Health Commission (USMBHC).

Eligibility

N/A

Contact Information

R. J. Dutton (512) 458-7675
Office of Border Health

Web Page

www.tdh.state.tx.us/border/