

Texas Aging and Adult Services



State Agency Mission

Texas Aging and Adult Services are part of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) agency. HHSC's mission is to improve the health, safety and well-being of Texans with good stewardship of public resources.

Populations Served

- ✓ **Older Adults**
- ✓ **Adults with Physical Disabilities**
- ✓ **Adults with Developmental Disabilities**
- ✓ **Individuals with Traumatic and/or Acquired Brain Injuries**
- ✓ **Individuals with Behavioral Health Conditions**
- ✓ **Individuals with Substance Use Disorders**
- ✓ **Other:** Adults with very low incomes

Organizational Structure

The director is appointed by the Governor and oversees a staff of 37,977.7 FTE.

Local Network

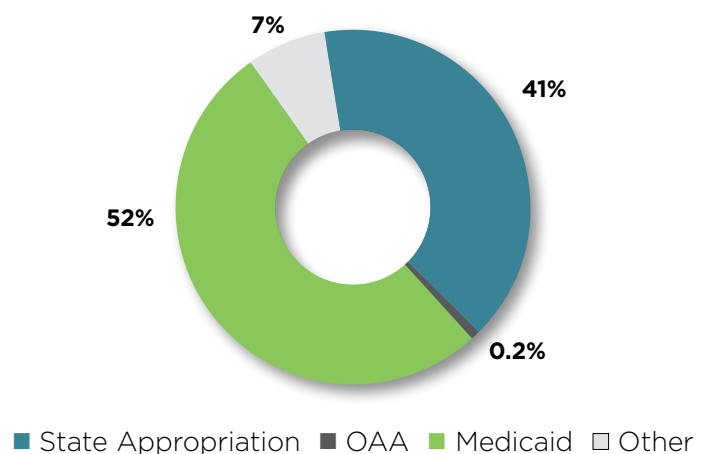
- 28** Area Agencies on Aging
- 18** Independent Living Centers

Top Five Agency Policy Priorities

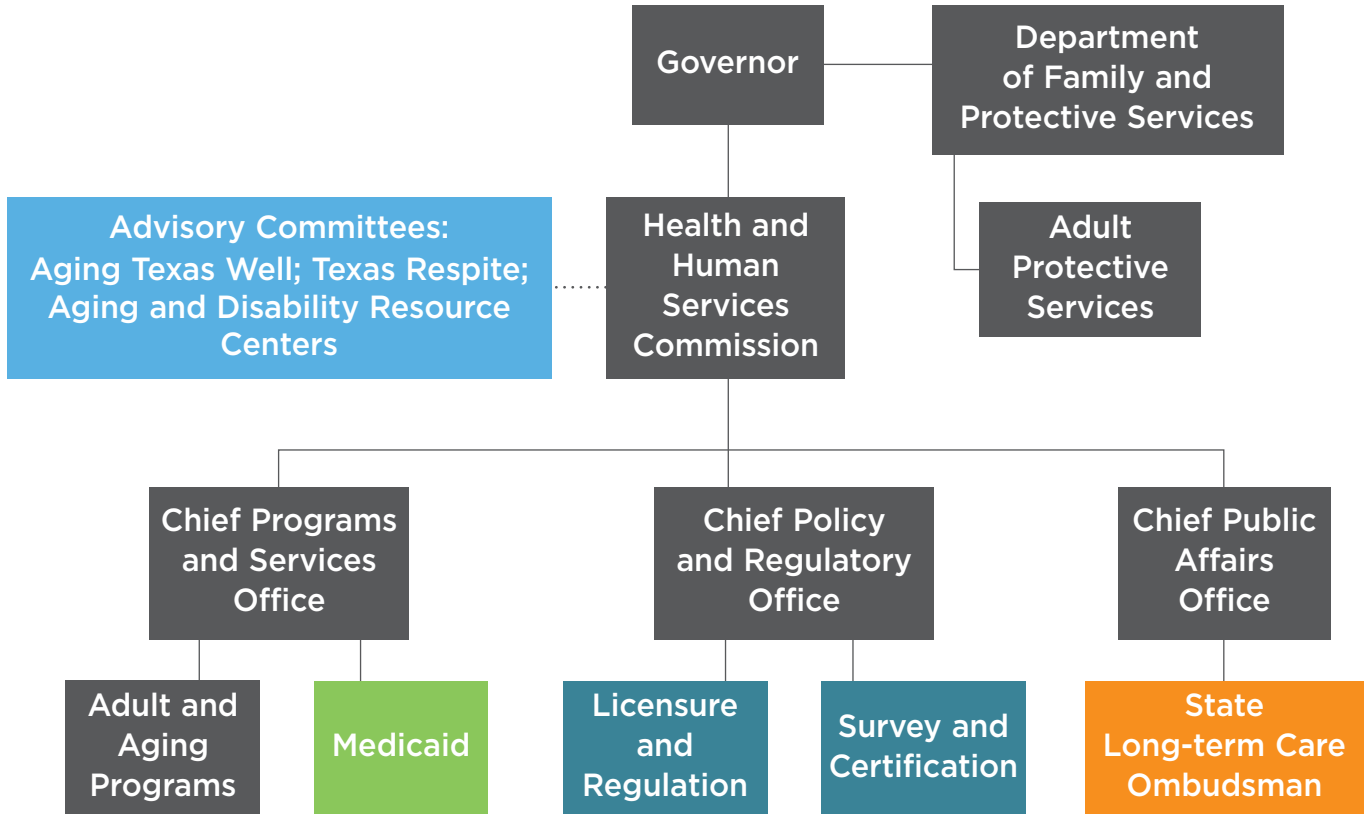
1. Workforce Shortage
2. COVID-related closures of providers
3. Delivering Services Remotely during COVID
4. Mitigating Social Isolation
5. Opioids Crisis and Substance Use

Agency Funding Sources

Total FY2020 Budget \$38,024,532,853



Texas Aging and Adult Services



- Aging or Physical Disability Services and Agency or Division with Multiple Functions
- Medicaid Services
- Long-term Care Ombudsman
- Provider Regulation and Oversight
- Advisory Board
- Denotes an advisory board or a contractual/indirect reporting relationship.
- * Denotes Cabinet-level Agency

Responsibilities of the of Texas Aging and Adult Services

| Aging & Adult Services | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Set statewide aging policy | ✓ |
| Set statewide disability policy | ✓ |
| Administer Older Americans Act (all programs except SCSEP) | ✓ |
| Administer Senior Community Service Employment Program | ✓ |
| Administer a state-funded aging & disability program | ✓ |
| Manage state Aging & Disability Resource Center network | ✓ |
| Administer the State Health Insurance Assistance Program | ✓ |
| Provide Adult Protective Services (18+) | |
| Provide Elder Protective Services <i>only</i> (60-65+) | |
| Operate state-owned institutional facilities | ✓ |
| Oversee guardianship program | ✓ |
| Serve as state guardian | ✓ |
| Oversee Centers for Independent Living | ✓ |
| Administer State Vocational Rehabilitation Program | |
| Administer State Assistive Technology Program | |
| Manage No Wrong Door system | ✓ |

| Medicaid Services | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Administer Medicaid State Plan Services | ✓ |
| Administer Medicaid HCBS waiver(s) | ✓ |
| Administer PACE program | ✓ |
| Perform Medicaid functional eligibility determinations | ✓ |
| Perform Medicaid financial eligibility determinations | ✓ |
| Provide case management services to Medicaid recipients | ✓ |
| Administer PASRR | ✓ |
| Regulate and administer managed long-term services and supports | ✓ |
| Provide quality assurance for managed long-term services and supports | ✓ |
| Provide quality assurance for Medicaid HCBS | ✓ |

| Responsibilities for Provider Management | |
|------------------------------------------|---|
| Regulate institutional providers | ✓ |
| License institutional providers | ✓ |
| Regulate HCBS providers | ✓ |
| License HCBS providers | ✓ |
| Certify Assisted Living providers | ✓ |

Key State Initiative

The Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) has developed a [Disability Services Action Plan](#) to improve the system and delivery of services for Texans with disabilities. In fiscal year 2020, HHS staff hosted seven disability listening sessions across the state to gain insight from clients, providers and advocates about their experiences and challenges navigating HHS, as well as opportunities to improve. Through the feedback received, and research and information from several other agency reports, HHS identified achievable opportunities to improve agency coordination making it easier for individuals, families and providers to navigate the HHS system for disability services. In all, 27 recommendations across four initiatives (training and support; communication; policy and rules; and system redesign) were found to be achievable within one to five fiscal years.

The HHS Texas Congregate Meal Initiative (TCMI) is a project aimed to increase participation in Texas Congregate Meal Programs. The TCMI project seeks to do this by establishing a learning collaborative in which 16 selected congregate meal providers and a mentor from their associated Area Agency on Aging (AAA) learn innovative practices, business acumen, and program development skills. The participants will then receive \$7,500 to implement an innovative pilot project in their region. At the end of the three year project the state will host a state-wide summit for all nutrition providers and AAAs.

