



Fellowship Name: Tuberculosis Epidemiology and Surveillance Fellowship

Fellowship Details

Host Site Organization Name: Texas Department of State Health Services

Host Site Division/Program: Regional and Local Health Operations, Public Health Region 8 Tuberculosis Program

Host Site/Fellowship Location: 7430 Louis Pasteur Drive, San Antonio, Texas

Host Site Workplace Setting: 100% onsite/in-person

Workplace Setting Description: Teleworking will not be an option but will be considered in certain emergencies.

Public Health Core Disciplines: Epidemiology Social and Behavioral Sciences

Primary Fellowship Focus/Topics: Infectious Diseases Disease Surveillance

Fellowship Overview

Host Site Mission

Texas DSHS Public Health Region 8 focuses on Tuberculosis (TB) elimination by preventing the spread of tuberculosis. The Region 8 TB program works to prevent widespread outbreaks of Tuberculosis and improves diagnosis and reporting.

Fellowship Projects

The fellow will complete surveillance and epidemiology activities for community and corrections patients. To complete surveillance activities, fellow will abstract, review, and interpret medical information from disease reports. The fellow will then complete investigations of disease reports and consult with physicians, laboratories, hospital personnel. Fellow will develop educational material to help providers understand what tests need to be completed to help with TB diagnosis. Fellow will also help develop educational material and videos for TB patients with a diabetes co-infection. The educational material is targeted at improving diabetes disease outcomes when a patient is also being treated for TB.

Fellowship Deliverables

- Manipulate the state surveillance system (NEDSS) and analyze data to help identify how the program can more effectively meet performance measures.
- Develop TB/Diabetes videos and pilot test the effectiveness through observation and data analysis.
- Develop educational tools for physicians and nurses to enhance TB diagnosis and TB reporting.

Fellowship Activities/Responsibilities

Responsibilities:

- Fellow will receive reports regarding TB cases and suspects and ensure data is complete, correct, and entered into the regional and state databases/registries per established deadlines. Requests additional information from hospitals, clinics, or correctional facilities, as needed by the treating physician or TB nurse consultant.
- Fellow will serve as a back-up to the surveillance coordinator and will be responsible for receiving all incoming disease reports, labs, records. Fellow will sort all faxes, save documents in existing patient folder, or create new folder when necessary and forward to correct program staff according to program procedures.
- Create events for new patients in state database upon report, assist clinical staff with updating preliminary information on case presentation forms.
- Update the PHR 8 tuberculosis manual to reflect data entry procedures into the state registry (NEDSS).

Learn:

- Fellow will gain fundamental knowledge about Tuberculosis and how to use the state surveillance system (NEDSS).
- Learn to complete contact investigations, phlebotomy, collect specimens, package specimens, ship specimens, and transport specimens.
- Learn how to complete directly observed therapy (DOT) for cases/suspects and directly observed preventative therapy (DOPT) to TB contacts or LTBI patients. Will learn how to provide education and build a trusting relationship with patients

2025-26 Texas Public Health Fellowship

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Salary and Benefits

Annual Salary: Tier 3, \$66,150

All fellows will be eligible for DSHS employee [benefits](#) including [health insurance](#) and leave.

Travel

Percent Travel: 30%

Travel Description: Travel will be done to help with contact investigations, collect specimens, attend conferences, and provide support to clinical staff. The general destinations include travel to counties in Region 8 including but not limited to Maverick, Val Verde, Jackson, and Comal. The majority of travel will be local but regional travel may be required.

Required Applicant Qualifications

(The following qualifications are REQUIRED. Do NOT apply to this position unless you currently meet or plan to meet these requirements by the start of the Fellowship, June 1, 2025.)

Required certification/license:

No requirement

Preferred Language Skills

Ability to Speak in Spanish:

Basic: Fellow can speak the language imperfectly and only to a limited degree and in limited situations. The Fellow will have difficulty in or understanding extended conversations

Ability to Write in Spanish:

Basic: Fellow can write the language imperfectly and only to a limited degree and in limited situations.

Preferred Educational Qualifications

(The following preferences are guidelines provided by the Host Site. These are NOT requirements. Host Sites prefer that applicants have completed or are currently working toward these.)

Preferred Level of Education: Master's Degree

Preferred Specialized and Technical Skills

(The following skills will be a focus during this Fellowship position. If you have or are interested in developing data analysis skills or building technical skills in the software listed below, this could be a good Fellowship position for you.)

Data Analysis Skills:

Somewhat Skilled: has done Data Analysis in coursework, but not applied Data Analysis in the real world

Statistical Software Skills:

No Preference

Statistical Software:

No preference

Other Software:

Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint