October 30, 2026

To those interested in serving on the Texas State Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT) Committee:

Per Texas Family Code, Section 264.503, the purpose of the SCFRT is to:

(1) Develop an understanding of the causes and incidence of child deaths;
(2) Identify procedures within agencies represented on the committee to reduce the number preventable child deaths; and,
(3) Promote public awareness and make recommendations to the governor and the legislature for changes in law, policy, and practices.

The SCFRT produces a formal report every two years that includes information on the causes and incidence of child fatality and recommendations to prevent child deaths. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) shares the report with the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House of Representatives, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, and the public.
DSHS is currently accepting applications for membership on the SCFRT for the following positions:

- A child advocate
- A child educator
- A criminal prosecutor involved in prosecuting crimes against children
- A representative of the Department of Public Safety
- An Emergency Medical Services (EMS) provider
- A justice of the peace
- A medical examiner
- A neonatologist
- A representative of the Texas Department of Transportation

The six permanent members of the committee will appoint new members. New members will serve a three-year term ending February 1, 2030.

To view the full composition of the SCFRT, visit the State Child Fatality Review Team Committee.

An applicant to the SCFRT must be a member of the child fatality review team in the county where the applicant resides.

A SCFRT member is expected to attend all SCFRT meetings and may also participate in projects, presentations, and subcommittee meetings. SCFRT meetings are held quarterly or at the call of the SCFRT chair. Members must attend meetings in person or virtually, as established by DSHS. Reimbursement for travel expenses to and from meetings is permitted when funds are available.

To apply for membership on the SCFRT, please complete and return the SCFRT application with supporting documentation no later than **11:59 p.m. CST, November 30, 2026**. An application may be emailed to cfrt@dshs.texas.gov, attention Sarah Blezinger, Injury Prevention Coordinator.

DSHS will notify applicants by March 12, 2027, if an applicant is selected to serve on the SCFRT.

The agency does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, disability, religion, age or sex against applicants and members of the DSHS advisory committees.

For more information about the SCFRT, visit the DSHS SCFRT website at State Child Fatality Review Team Committee or submit questions to cfrt@dshs.texas.gov.