



November 3, 2025

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Governor of Texas
1200 Congress, Room 25.1
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Governor Abbott:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

The report is available at [DSHS Legislative Reports – 2025 | Texas DSHS](#).

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Jordan Hill-Shepherd, Director of Government Affairs, serves as the lead staff on this matter, and she can be reached by telephone at (512) 221-3755 or by email at Jordan.hill@dshs.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

The Honorable Dan Patrick
Lieutenant Governor
State Capitol, Room 2E.13
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Governor Patrick:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

The Honorable Dustin Burrows
Speaker, House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 2W.13
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Speaker Burrows:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

Mr. Jerry McGinty, II
Director, Legislative Budget Board
P.O. Box 12666
Austin, TX 78711-2666

Dear Mr. McGinty:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Shuford, MD".

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

The Honorable Lois Kolkhorst
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
Sam Houston Building, Room 420
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Chair Kolkhorst:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

The Honorable Gary VanDeaver
Chair, House Committee on Public Health
State Capitol, EXT E2.172
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Chair VanDeaver:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner



November 3, 2025

Tabatha Vasquez
Senior Advisor for Budget and Policy
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Cesar Puesan IV
Budget and Policy Advisor
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Ms. Vasquez and Mr. Puesan:

The 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act, Article IX, [Section 7.15](#) requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to publish a report that summarizes and details the activities at state agencies and institutions of higher education that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. HHSC delegated this reporting requirement to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The report is due on December 1, 2025.

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Sincerely,

Jennifer A. Shuford, M.D., M.P.H.
DSHS Commissioner

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results

Agency or Institution of Higher Education (IHE)	Does your agency or institution of higher education conduct activities that are funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) or its affiliates?	Please provide an overview of activities funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. Only include relevant activities that occurred during fiscal year 2025.
Angelo State University	No	
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas	No	
Commission on State Emergency Communications	No	
Department of Family and Protective Services	No	
Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending	No	
East Texas A&M University	No	
Eighth Court of Appeals	No	
Eleventh Court of Appeals	No	
Lamar University	No	
Health and Human Services Commission	No	
Midwestern State University	No	
Ninth Court of Appeals	No	
Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner	No	
Office of Court Administration	No	
Office of Public Insurance Counsel	No	
Office of Public Utility Counsel	No	
Office of the Attorney General	No	
Public Utility Commission of Texas	No	
Railroad Commission of Texas	No	
Sam Houston State University	No	
Sixth Court of Appeals	No	
State Commission on Judicial Conduct	No	
State Office of Administrative Hearings	No	
STATE PRESERVATION BOARD	No	
Sul Ross State University	No	
Teacher Retirement System of Texas	No	
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service	No	
Texas A&M AgriLife Research	No	
Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station	No	
Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service	No	
Texas A&M Forest Service	No	
Texas A&M International University (761)	No	
Texas A&M Transportation Institute	No	
Texas A&M University - Kingsville	No	
Texas A&M University / Texas A&M University - Galveston /		
Texas A&M University Health Science Center	No	
Texas A&M University-Central Texas	No	
Texas A&M University-Texarkana	No	
Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory	No	
Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission	No	
Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council	No	
Texas Board of Chiropractic Examiners	No	
Texas Board of Nursing	No	
Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors	No	
Texas Bond Review Board	No	
Texas Commission on Fire Protection	No	
Texas Commission on Jail Standards	No	
Texas Commission on Law Enforcement	No	
Texas Department of Criminal Justice	No	
Texas Department of State Health Services	No	
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	No	
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles	No	
Texas Department of Transportation	No	
Texas Dept of Agriculture	No	

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Texas Division of Emergency Management	No	
Texas Education Agency	No	
Texas Facilities Commission	No	
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	No	
Texas Historical Commission	No	
Texas Military Department	No	
Texas Optometry Board	No	
Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board	No	
Texas Racing Commission	No	
Texas Real Estate Commission	No	
Texas School for the Deaf (772)	No	
Texas State Board of Dental Examiners	No	
Texas State Board of Pharmacy	No	
Texas State Law Library	No	
Texas State Securities Board	No	
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	No	
Texas State University	No	
Texas Tech University	No	
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center	No	
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso	No	
Texas Tech University System Administration	No	
Texas Workforce Commission	No	
TFSC	No	
		Two faculty members have established a Protocol Agreement with WHO to establish a Collaborating Centre at UTEP related to improving health for persons with disabilities.
The University of Texas at El Paso	Yes	
The University of Texas at Tyler	No	
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	No	
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler	No	
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center	Yes	Please see the attached response.
The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB)	Yes	Please see the attached response.
Twelfth Court of Appeals	No	
University of Houston-Victoria	No	
University of North Texas	No	
University of Texas at Austin	No	
University of Texas at San Antonio	No	
University of Texas Permian Basin	No	
		Although UT Southwestern does not have any awards or agreements with the World Health Organization (WHO) or its affiliates for FY2025 to fund, conduct or collaborate activities with or on behalf of WHO, one of our faculty, Dr. Saad Omer, Dean of the School of Public Health, is a consultant to the World Health Organization. During FY2025, Dr. Omer traveled to Geneva to provide technical expertise on an advisory panel called SAGE (Strategic Advisory Group of Experts) related to immunology. He has also presented remotely at similar collaborative events. Dr. Omer is not paid for his consulting services; however, Dr. Omer's respective travel expenses are funded by a third-party, non-UT Southwestern organization(s).
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	Yes	

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results
Response from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

REQUEST

Please provide an overview of activities funded, directed, or in collaboration with the World Health Organization or its affiliates. Only include relevant activities that occurred during fiscal year 2025. Please note that detailed responses to this question will be reproduced verbatim in the required report to the Texas legislature.

RESPONSE SUBMITTED VIA ONLINE SURVEY

MD Anderson's mission is to eliminate cancer in Texas, the nation and the world. MD Anderson's collaborations with the World Health Organization (WHO) advance this mission to have the greatest impact on cancer worldwide. MD Anderson shares knowledge and expertise to help reduce the burden of cancer at the regional and population level around the globe.

All of MD Anderson's activities with WHO are collaborative in nature; they are not funded by or directed by WHO.

Specifically, this collaboration aims to increase access to high quality cancer care around the world. The focus is WHO's global initiatives in adult cancers, i.e., the [Global Breast Cancer Initiative](#) and the [Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative](#). MD Anderson's activities include:

- Expert guidance -- reviews and contributions to WHO technical documents

- Cancer control and prevention – strategies, planning, and implementation assistance

- Capacity building – education, training of physicians, nurses, and other clinicians

In alignment with these same initiatives, MD Anderson collaborates with the WHO Regional Office for the Americas – the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) -

[MD Anderson and PAHO executed a memorandum of understanding in May 2024.](#)

The following MOU expired in October 2024 -

[MD Anderson and WHO executed a memorandum of understanding in October 2022.](#)

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results

If your answer to Question 8 requires a more detailed response, please indicate here whether you intend to send an email containing a file with additional documentation to WHOreporting@dshs.texas.gov.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSE BELOW SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL

Activity	Description	Date/Location
Publications and Technical Guidance	Expert contribution to technical guidelines Review and recommendations by disease and discipline specific experts Ex: Patient Navigation for Breast Cancer	By request
Global Breast Cancer Initiative	Advice, recommendations, technical expertise re cancer materials on the Knowledge Action Portal	Ongoing (virtual)
Telementoring for Cancer Providers	Project ECHO telementoring program providing ongoing education and training for local providers Ex: Project ECHO ELA – Elimination of Cervical Cancer for Latin America. Project ECHO MIMIC – Mammography in Caribbean	Ongoing (virtual)
WHO Cancer Partners Forums (Breast and Cervical)	Participation- expert guidance, best practices, strategies for regional cancer prevention and control initiatives	Ongoing (virtual)
National Cancer Planning	“ImPACT Reviews”- National cancer planning at the request of Ministries of Health – Assessment of a country’s cancer capacities and needs and identify priority interventions to effectively respond to its cancer burden. Contribute expertise for recommendations report to the Ministry of Health.	By request Rwanda (Jan 2025) Sri Lanka (March 2025) Chile (April 2025)
Breast Cancer Treatment Expertise	Best practices for PAHO project focused on chemotherapy drugs for breast cancer in Latin America – i.e. what drugs should be made available, treatment protocols, etc.	Started Jan 2025 (virtual)
Breast Cancer Capacity Building	Breast cancer imaging and diagnostic training – ultrasound, biopsy, clinical breast exam training	May 14-18, 2025 (Nassau, Bahamas)

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Cervical Cancer	Public-private sector meeting to exchange ideas and explore opportunities to accelerate cervical cancer elimination across Latin America and the Caribbean	June 30, 2025 (Washington, DC)
Cancer Prevention and Control	Contribute to development of the WHO Academy course on National Cancer Control Planning for ministries of health Ex: Expert review and technical input for the education module outline, learning objectives, assessments, course content, etc.	Started Dec. 2024 (virtual)
Breast Cancer Capacity Building-- Early Detection and Diagnosis	Training course- imaging (mammography, ultrasound), image guided biopsy, clinical breast exam, and multidisciplinary care for 12 Latin American nations	August 2025 (MD Anderson Woodlands)

Response from The University of Texas Medical Branch

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results



HHSC State Report on FY25 WHO Activities

As required by Article IX, Sec. 7.15 of the Texas General Appropriations Act, a state agency or institution of higher education appropriated monies by this Act and engaged in any activities in collaboration with, directed by, or financed by the World Health Organization (WHO) or its affiliates shall report on those activities to the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) by the end of each fiscal year.

For more than 130 years, UTMB has stood with Texas—training today and tomorrow's health care workforce; working to better understand and treat illness and injury; providing care for Texas families; and innovating new ways to improve health.

UTMB research work serves as a critically important resource in the worldwide fight against infectious diseases. Key faculty, who are often regarded as international experts in their fields of expertise, are thoughtful voices in global conversations regarding assessing medical countermeasures in creating a healthy path forward for our country.

Other activities with the WHO reflecting institutional infectious disease knowledge are included in the table, such as UTMB faculty offering expert guidance on materials or intersecting research affiliations.

Activity	Description	Connection
<i>UTMB-PAHO/WHO Research Collaboration</i>		
Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) <i>WHO funding is not received by UTMB for this collaboration.</i>	This work supports PAHO/WHO's efforts to build country capacities for research on healthy aging using population-based studies, and further, to distribute research findings on older adults.	UTMB's Sealy Center on Aging has an active collaboration with PAHO. General revenue is not used by the Sealy Center on Aging in this WHO collaboration.
<i>UTMB Expert Guidance: Conference and Committee Participation, and Strategic Plan Review</i>		

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results

Eliminate Yellow Fever Epidemics (EYE) Strategy: Risk Analysis Working Group (2017)	The strategy was developed by a coalition of partners to face yellow fever's changing epidemiology, resurgence of mosquitoes, and the increased risk of urban outbreaks and international spread.	A UTMB faculty member participated in the creation of the 2017-2026 strategic plan.
World Health Organization Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (WHO SAGE) Ad Hoc Working Group: Japanese Encephalitis (JE) Vaccines.	The Working Group was asked to review evidence and formulate proposed recommendations.	A UTMB faculty member participated in the two meetings.
Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN)	GOARN is a WHO network of over 250 technical institutions and networks globally that respond to acute public health events with rapid and effective support.	GNL scientists participated with GOARN as experts in outbreak response.
WHO Publication: Lassa Fever Research and Development (R&D) Roadmap (2019)	The roadmap prioritizes the development of countermeasures that are most needed by Lassa fever affected countries.	UTMB faculty members participated in the 20192029 Lassa Fever strategic plan.
WHO Publication: Zika Virus Research and Development (R&D) Roadmap (2021)	The roadmap prioritizes the development of countermeasures that are most needed by Zika affected countries.	UTMB faculty members participated in the 20212031 Zika Virus strategic plan.
WHO Global O2ptimization of Respiratory Support Collaboration Webinar	This research collaboration looks at delivering oxygen and providing respiratory support for patients with SARI and hypoxaemic respiratory failure across the globe, in a range of resourced settings.	A UTMB faculty member participated in preparatory online meetings to discuss research priorities in oxygen support.
Second WHO Global Clinical Trials Forum	This forum was focused on reforming clinical trial ecosystem, to drive efficiency and impact.	A UTMB faculty member participated.
<i>Published Research – UTMB Faculty Participation</i>		

World Health Organization Reporting Fiscal Year 2025 Results

Publications	Publications related to Zika virus and Lassa fever.	A UTMB faculty member was one of the authors of publications, with WHO also listed as an author.
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