



June 28, 2022

To Texans interested in hospital designations under the new neonatal and maternal levels of care rules:

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is accepting applications for membership on the Perinatal Advisory Council. The council develops and recommends criteria for hospital designation levels of care capabilities for neonatal and maternal services. The council seeks input from the Texas Medical Association, Texas Hospital Association and other stakeholders interested in the hospital designation process.

The HHS executive commissioner will appoint members to the council to serve a term expiring Sept. 1, 2025 (unless otherwise indicated). Currently, HHSC is seeking representatives to be selected from the following categories:

- Physicians specializing in neonatology
- Physicians specializing in maternal fetal medicine
- Physicians specializing in family practice who provide obstetrical care in a rural area
- Physicians specializing in family practice who provide obstetrical care in a rural area in a hospital with 50 or fewer patient beds and is
  - ▶ located in a county with a population of 60,000 or less or
  - ▶ designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as a critical access hospital, rural referral center, or sole community hospital
- General hospitals
- Children's hospitals

A council member must regularly take part in council meetings and may also have to take part in other meetings. Council meetings will be held in Austin about once every three months or at the call of the presiding officer. *To the extent permitted by the current state budget, a council member may be repaid for their travel expenses to and from meetings if money is available and in accordance with the HHSC Travel Policy.*

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If you would like to apply to serve on the council, please complete and return the attached application by **Aug. 19**. HHSC prefers that you submit your application electronically, but you may submit the application by email, mail or fax at these addresses:

Email:

HHS\_Appointments@hhs.texas.gov

Subject: PAC

Mail:

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

P.O. Box 13247, Mail Code 0223

Austin, TX 78711

Attn: Susanna Sparkman

Fax:

512-206-3984

Attn: PAC

HHSC will notify applicants if they have been selected to serve as a member of the Perinatal Advisory Council.

In selecting members to serve on the council, HHSC considers the applicants' qualifications, background and interest in serving on the council. HHSC tries to choose council members who represent the diversity of all Texans. For that reason, HHSC considers applicants' ethnicity, gender and geographic location.

For more information about the council, [visit the council website](#) or David L. Williams at [perinatal\\_advisory\\_council@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:perinatal_advisory_council@hhsc.state.tx.us).

For more information about applying to be on the council, or for Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations, email Susanna Sparkman at [HHS\\_Appointments@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:HHS_Appointments@hhs.texas.gov) or call 512-438-2897.