



February 28, 2024

To Texans interested in issues surrounding brain injury:

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is accepting applications for membership on the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council. The council advises the HHS executive commissioner and HHSC on strategic planning, policy, rules and services related to brain injury. This includes rehabilitation and long-term services and supports for people who have survived brain injuries. The council files an annual written report with the HHS executive commissioner as well as a biennial written report with the Texas Legislature.

The council must seek input from brain injury survivors, family members and caregivers, and professionals on these issues. The council will make formal recommendations to HHSC on how to implement sustainable services and support strategies that meet the complex needs of people who have survived a brain injury to improve their quality of life and ability to function independently in the home and community.

The HHS executive commissioner will appoint members to the council to serve a term expiring Dec. 31, 2026 (unless otherwise indicated). Currently, HHSC is seeking representatives to be selected from the following categories:

- People representing diverse ethnic and cultural groups and geographic regions of Texas who have survived a brain injury
- People representing diverse ethnic/cultural groups and geographic regions of Texas, age 18 to 26, who have survived a brain injury who are a transition age youth (Applicants for this category must be at least 18 years old but not older than 26 years old.)
- Institutions of higher education engaged in research that impacts people who have survived a traumatic brain injury
- Acute hospital trauma units
- Stroke committee of the Governor's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Advisory Council or other stakeholder group with a focus on stroke

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A council member must regularly take part in council meetings and may also have to take part in subcommittee meetings, projects and presentations. 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 who is serving in the role of a brain injury survivor or a family member actively involved in the care of a loved one who has sustained a brain injury may be repaid for their travel expenses to and from meetings if money is available and in accordance with the HHSC Travel Policy. Council members serving in a professional role aren't paid to attend or travel to and from council meetings.*

If you would like to apply to serve on the council, please complete and return the attached application by **April 5**. 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: TBIAC

Mail:

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

P.O. Box 13247, Mail Code 0223

Austin, TX 78711

Attn: ACCO

Fax:

512-206-3984

Attn: TBIAC

HHSC will notify applicants if they have been selected to serve as a member of the Texas Brain Injury 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.

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For more information about the council, [visit the council website](#) or contact [Blake Agee](#).

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