

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATION



**Ex Officio Report
to
Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities**

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Executive Summary

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation continues to grow with the addition of new programs and expansion of some existing programs following Texas' 89th Legislative Session. Construction does not seem to take a break in Texas and requires a growing reliance on the Architectural Barriers Program for sound and consistent direction interpreting the Texas Accessibility Standards. In addition, the Driver Safety and Transportation Network Companies expand TDLR's reach to include transportation issues relevant to persons with disabilities. Medical and Health Profession programs bring a heightened TDLR emphasis on serving Texans with disabilities.

Long-range strategic plans for people with disabilities

TDLR's Strategic Plan for 2025-2029, "Leading Texas to a Brighter Stronger Future" may be viewed at:

[TDLR Strategic Plan FY 2025-29.pdf \(texas.gov\)](#)

TDLR is currently developing our 2027-2031 strategic plan. TDLR hosted two in-person sessions on April 13, 2026, in Houston, Fort Worth, and San Antonio. In addition, we provided a virtual option on April 15, 2026. These allowed TDLR to hear ideas, experiences, and feedback to help shape the future of TDLR.

Anti-Human Trafficking Division

On March 1st, the Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Division officially marked its one-year anniversary, having completed its first year of focused efforts to combat trafficking and strengthen regulatory enforcement. The AHT division collaborates closely with the Office of the Attorney General, local governments, NGOs, and national partners to strengthen coordination and amplify impact. Through this integrated framework, the AHT Division has achieved meaningful progress in its first year.

INITIATIVE	DAT A	DETAILS
Emergency Orders Issued	48	Order that immediately causes license revocation, suspension, or halting of operations for businesses and individuals causing risk to public safety. These were specifically focused on illicit massage businesses, sexual assault behavior, and diploma mill schools.
Diploma Mill Schools Closed	3	Specialized investigations, inspections, and emergency orders intended to shut down Massage Therapy program schools that create a pipeline to the illicit massage industry and regularly engage in fraudulent documentation reported to TDLR.
Licenses Revoked	100	Licenses within the Massage Therapy program, (including massage student permits, massage therapists, massage instructors, massage establishments, and massage schools) connected to indicators of human trafficking or illicit operations.
License Applications Denied	70	Issuing license denial letters for individuals or entities connected to indicators of human trafficking to prevent the misuse of licenses as a front for illicit operations.
Human Trafficking Related Trainings Conducted	55	Prevention and awareness efforts through trainings presented or hosted by the Anti-Human Trafficking Division.
Community Impact Projects Initiated	3	Targets illicit massage businesses, one community at a time, using focused enforcement, collaboration with external agencies and local representatives, and effectively disrupts illicit operations.

AHT Training and Collaboration Efforts

AHT staff continue to collaborate with partner agencies and deliver human trafficking related trainings:

- In January 2026, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) hosted a Human Trafficking Awareness Day Symposium at the Capitol. AHT staff co-presented with OAG staff, sharing information on illicit massage businesses and enforcement-based strategies to address them.

- In February 2026, the Human Trafficking Institute (HTI) hosted a two-day training in Williamson County on illicit massage businesses for law enforcement, prosecutors, and TDLR staff, with AHT staff presenting. HTI is conducting a series of these two-day trainings across five pilot counties in Texas as part of a broader initiative to support community efforts to combat human trafficking. The same training was delivered in Denton County in March 2026 and in Lubbock County in April 2026, with AHT staff presenting at each event. An additional combined training for Montgomery and Fort Bend County audiences is scheduled for May 2026, with AHT staff also presenting.

Legislative Updates – 89th Legislature, Regular Session

House Bill 1778

This legislation expands TDLR's enforcement and reporting authority by requiring the agency to submit the results of all investigations, including those involving human trafficking, to OAG. Through this process, a statewide data repository will be established, ensuring that regulatory findings can be actively utilized in investigations and prosecutions. In addition, the law mandates human trafficking prevention training for employees of tattoo and body piercing studios, cosmetology facilities, and massage establishments regulated by TDLR, enabling frontline workers to serve as a critical link in the early identification and reporting of potential victims. In this way, HB 1778 strengthens TDLR's role in both prevention and enforcement, laying the foundation for a victim-centered response across regulated industries.

Senate Bill 610

This legislation strengthens TDLR's role in combating human trafficking by formally establishing an Anti-Trafficking Unit in Chapter 51 of the Occupations Code. It authorizes TDLR to identify trafficking activity in any regulated industry, coordinate with the attorney general, law enforcement, and nongovernmental partners, and ensures privacy protections for victims by exempting identifying information from disclosure. The bill codifies current practices and provides a clear statutory framework so TDLR can continue its anti-trafficking work effectively.

Senate Bill 2167

Building on authority granted in the 88th Session (HB 3579), which allowed emergency orders to shut down massage establishments suspected of trafficking, this bill addresses a critical loophole. Despite the new emergency order authority, licensees were still able to apply for new licenses at other locations before revocations were finalized. SB 2167 closes this gap by allowing the executive director to place a hold on license applications for massage establishments or schools if the applicant is under an emergency order or suspected of trafficking. Since the enactment of HB 3579, TDLR has issued 53 emergency orders, impacting 78 locations, pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Sec. 455.252. This work has resulted in the revocation or suspension of over 60 Massage Establishment licenses. In FY25, 64 licenses were revoked.

Specialized IMB Training and Capacity Building

TDLR delivered specialized training on illicit massage businesses (IMBs) to a broad range of professionals. Fire marshals received instruction on identifying and responding to human trafficking indicators during inspections, emergency calls, and routine interactions, with 23 sessions conducted for 224 participants.

Additional training was provided to victim advocates, law enforcement, intelligence analysts, medical providers, and code enforcement staff, with a focus on on-site IMB response and victim services.

- Training sessions conducted in FY25 included:
- IMB and Regulatory Inspection Training for Police Officers – 17 sessions
- Human Trafficking Training for First Responders – 11 sessions
- IMB Victim Response Training for Victim Advocates – 8 sessions
- Additional specialized trainings – 9 sessions

Resources

The TDLR Health Monitor is an emailed publication where TDLR shares information and updates for our medical and health professions programs. Our most recent edition was published February 23, 2026. You can view this

edition and archived newsletters on our website at:
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/healthmonitor.htm>.

The TDLR On the Level is an emailed publication where TDLR shares information and updates for our building and construction programs. Our most recent edition was published January 25, 2026. You can view this edition and archived newsletters on our website at:
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/onthelevel.htm>.

Calendar

Meetings of the TDLR Commission and program advisory groups are subject to current health considerations. The most up-to-date information will be posted on TDLR's web site at:

<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/meetings.htm>

The [Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation](#) is scheduled to meet in **Wednesday, May 20th, 2026**. The meeting will take place at George H.W. Bush Building, 104 W 18th St, Austin, Texas, and will be broadcast on [TDLR's YouTube channel](#). When the agenda is available, it will be posted online.

Texas Accessibility Academy (TAA) and two other courses on rules and law that regulate the Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) were presented in conjunction with Building Professional Institute (BPI) on 02/09-11/2026 in Houston. The next Academy and courses will be taught on 05/26-28/2026 in Irving. Specific details are available on the BPI website. In addition, the Accessibility Professionals Association (APA) hosted TDLR teaching the 2-day virtual Academy on 03/10/2026 and 03/12/2026. The next Academy will be taught virtually on 06/23/2026 and 06/25/2026. Specific details are available on the APA [website](#).

Learn More: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/ab/taa.htm>

TDLR is scheduled to teach on May 15th, 2026 a virtual course outdoor accessibility called "Exploring with Accessibility". This course will go over upcoming electric vehicle and recreational vehicle requirements. We will continue with resort, spa and pool requirements. The course will end with a

few other upcoming construction standards for those with accessibility needs.

Elimination of Architectural Barriers do not currently have an advisory meeting scheduled at this time. Once scheduled an agenda for the meeting will be posted on the TDLR website.

TDLR's Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Division hosts a monthly law enforcement engagement group to strengthen statewide collaboration among law enforce code enforcement, and district, county, and city attorneys. The group discusses techniques used to combat human trafficking within the illicit massage industry, collaborative tools, and community trends. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month via Microsoft Teams. For an invitation to join these meetings, email AHTOutreach@tdlr.texas.gov and include your agency name, your role, and your interest to be added to the invite list.

Disability Program Updates

Architectural Barriers Program

Project registrations within fiscal year '26 have begun to rise again to an average of 1,900 construction projects per month, new and renovations. This is attributed to many constituents getting used to the requirement of including copies of County Appraisal District records and Texas Secretary of State records for Limited Corporations to verify ownership entries at the beginning of the project process. The Texas Architectural Barriers online System (TABS) has over 330,785 registered projects on record with 100,799 of those open projects. This is a small increase of one percent increase to 30% of the projects registered in TABS are open projects. Since rolling out the TABS online project management

system on December 3, 2018, the number of online users has grown to over 32,215.

For the second quarter of fiscal year '26 the program processed 51 Variance Applications, Appeals, or Executive Appeals. Results broken down: 20% disapprovals, 65% postponements, 8% approvals, 8% Mixed or Not Required. The majority of these postponements are a result of the new electric vehicle charging stations having operable parts too heavy. These applications are examples where compliance with TAS could not be achieved due to existing constraints or postponed based on nature and use of the facility.

Our Enforcement division receives both consumer and department filed complaints. Most consumer complaints we receive typically draw attention to items regarding parking signage, accessible routes, and curb ramps issues. These are usually closed because they are outside our jurisdiction and the complainant is directed to contact the Department of Justice for violations of ADA. In addition, the Enforcement division has been working hard on processing department complaints filed within the department against owners that have failed to get the required inspection or failed to notify the department of corrections to violations found during the inspection. For the second quarter of 26' fiscal year the department pursued compliance and resolved 18 cases. This is a slight decrease from the previous quarter due to shortage of staff.

Currently, the techinfo email address receives over 100 contacts each day, keeping staff very busy. Topics include various aspects of the program: the standards, the law, the rules, TABS online registration, procedures for Registered Accessibility Specialists, etc. Most of the workload, however, is with regards to updates and specific questions on individual projects and many follow ups regarding missing documentation to verify ownership. Most inquiries are received via techinfo@tdlr.texas.gov email. The remainder are telephone contacts.

Project registrations for plan review and inspection continue to avoid the compliance process. The second quarter of '26 fiscal year the Department has sent 4,413 notices were sent out to facility owners regarding non-compliance

issues. This is an increase of 19.5% more notices going out over the quarter. Staff continue to brainstorm new ways to decrease the number of overdue plan reviews and inspections. We have found some building officials still seem unaware of the state law requiring that certain projects be registered with TDLR and hope that our courses in conjunction with BPI may assist in educating those officials. There is evidence to indicate that some owners avoid the process altogether or start the process but do not complete the basic steps of registration, plan review and inspection. TDLR staff continue to refer violators found to our Enforcement Division for our investigators to review and process complaints.

The TABS system is continuing to be developed and improved. We are currently working on some minor system glitches that have popped up and developing ways to make the new Limited Liability Ownership information easier to understand in the listed project contacts. TDLR staff will continue to work on updates correcting glitches and provide enhancements such as an audit feature to ensure RAS procedures.

We continue to discuss, analyze, and research areas elements to updates for the 2026 TAS to consolidate the accessibility requirements into one area, as well as provide requirements to new technologies and needs. TDLR also continues to get suggestions of areas from stake holders regarding thoughts to improve accessibility requirements in Texas. This edition is intended to include requirements that mirror the proposed federal outdoor developed guidelines. It will integrate the new parking requirements from Rule 68.104 and the proposed public right of way guidelines allowed by Rule 68.102. Also added, will be requirements for electrical vehicle charging station and adult changing tables. We will also be editing and clarifying some areas of the 2012 TAS that need further explanation. None of these edits will violate the federal ADA requirements. The advisory workgroup are currently meeting periodically in order to finalize all edits for the more complicated items.

Behavior Analysts

Behavior analysts design, implement, and evaluate instructional and environmental modifications to produce socially significant improvements in human behavior. Behavior analysts provide a wide range of services, including services to individuals with intellectual disabilities and autism, among others.

The regulation of behavior analysts in Texas began on June 15, 2018. Through FY 2025, the licensed population is now 6,638.

On December 6, 2024, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation voted to approve the Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board® (QABA®) as a certifying entity for behavior analysis licensure under TOC 506.002 (2) and have begun accepting applicants with that certification. Since that time the department has licensed 74 applicants via that pathway.

The Department also completed a review of the entire rule chapter. This is required every four years for re-adoption, revision, or repeal. The Notice of Intent to Review was published in the Texas Register on August 15, 2025, as part of a combined notice with other rule chapters undergoing simultaneous review. During the four-year review process, the Department determines whether the reasons for adopting or readopting these rules continue to exist and uses it as an opportunity to improve them. The commission approved the readoption during their February 18, 2026, meeting

Staff attended the national APBA in March of 2026 and also attended and provided outreach at the Texas Association of Behavior Analysts in April in San Antonio.

The primary stakeholder association is [Texas Association for Behavior Analysis](#).

Driver Education Program, American Sign Language Driver Education Course

TDLR regulates and licenses providers, instructors, and schools (about 3,000 licensees) for teen and adult driver education courses to obtain a Class C driver license in the state of Texas. Driver education is taken by thousands of students each year for whom these courses must be accessible.

Through a legislative initiative, TDLR has created a driver education course presented in American Sign Language for teens and adults. Education & Examination staff at TDLR report the project has been finished and is in action. TDLR does not keep statistics on usage of the materials. TDLR and GCPD separately disseminated information about the ASL course through list-serve.

Dyslexia Therapists and Practitioners

Licensed dyslexia therapists and licensed dyslexia practitioners are authorized to provide multisensory structured language education in Texas to students who have problems with reading, writing, and spelling because of differences in how their brains process language. Through FY 2025, TDLR licenses 1,406 Dyslexia Therapists and Practitioners.

Staff attended the 52nd Annual IDA Dallas Regional Dyslexia Conference in February of 2026.

The primary stakeholder association is the [Academic Language Therapy Association](#).

Hearing Instrument Fitters & Dispensers

Hearing instrument fitters & dispensers use audiometers and other methods to measure the hearing of those individuals affected by hearing impairment. Through those tests, fitters & dispensers are authorized to select, adapt, and sell a hearing instrument to help improve or correct impaired human hearing.

Through FY 2025, there are currently over 1,038 TDLR licensees in the Hearing Fitters and Dispensers program which includes Hearing Fitters and Dispensers, Temporary Training Permits, and Apprentice Permits.

With the passage of SB 2017 in the 88th Regular Session, a license is no longer required to sell over-the-counter hearing aids for mild to moderate hearing loss, greatly expanding the public's access to these instruments.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted amendments to the rules at 16 TAC, Chapter 112, Hearing Instrument Fitters and Dispensers at its April 9, 2025, meeting. The changes are in Subchapter A, §112.2; Subchapter E, §112.44; and Subchapter L, §112.110; they repeal existing rules at Subchapter H, §112.70 and §112.72; and add new rules at Subchapter H, §112.70 and §§112.73 - 112.76.

The adopted rules are necessary to update the current administrative rules and the continuing education (CE) requirements for hearing instrument fitter and dispenser apprentices, license holders, and CE providers.

The proposed rule changes prescribe and expand the CE hours, courses, and methods of delivery. They modify provisions for CE providers relating to registration and application requirements; registration issuance, term, and renewal requirements; and the responsibilities imposed on CE providers. They also extend the CE provider registration term from one year to two years and restructure the registration fees from \$200 annually to \$400 every two years. Finally, they eliminate the current requirement that each CE course offered or provided by a registered CE provider must be approved by the Department.

The updated rule chapter was published on the Secretary of State's website on its effective date of May 15, 2025.

The Department also completed a review of the entire rule chapter. This is required every four years for re-adoption, revision, or repeal. The Notice of Intent to Review was published in the Texas Register on November 22, 2024 (49 TexReg 9571), as part of a combined notice with other rule chapters undergoing simultaneous review. During the four-year review process, the Department determines whether the reasons for adopting or readopting these rules continue to exist.

The Commission readopted the rules at its April 9, 2025, meeting.

TDLR staff will be attending and presenting at the Texas Hearing Aid Association (THAA) Annual Conference in College Station in June.

The primary stakeholder association is the [Texas Hearing Aid Association](#).

Orthotists & Prosthetists

Orthotists engage in the science and practice of measuring, designing, fabricating, assembling, fitting, adjusting, or servicing a medical device designed to provide support, alignment, prevention, or correction of a neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disease, injury, or deformity. Prosthetists engage in the science and practice of measuring, designing, fabricating, assembling, fitting, adjusting, or servicing a medical device used to replace a missing limb, appendage, or other external human body part.

Both professions provide services in TDLR-licensed orthotic and prosthetic facilities or exempt facilities like hospitals under orders from a licensed physician or podiatrist. Through FY 2025, there are 636 licensees in 249 licensed facilities under the Orthotists and Prosthetists program at TDLR.

The passage of SB 1330 in the 89th Regular Session is meant to reduce potentially fraudulent charges for Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and consequentially for orthotic and prosthetic devices and supplies. Bill implementation teams from TDLR have discussed the fulfillment of the bill in detail with a workgroup from the Orthotists and Prosthetists Advisory Board on January 7, 2026.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted amendments to existing rules at 16 Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 114, §§114.1, 114.70, and 114.90, regarding the Orthotists and Prosthetists program.

The adopted amendments implement Senate Bill (SB) 490, 88th Legislature, Regular Session, which requires certain health care providers to provide itemized bills. The adopted amendments also make non-substantive changes for purposes of clarity and consistency with the format of other rule chapters administered by the Department.

The [adoption justification](#) was published in the August 9, 2024, issue of the *Texas Register* (49 TexReg 5950). The updated [rule chapter](#) is now available in the Texas Administrative Code.

The advisory board met on October 14, 2025, to consider changes to the orthotic and prosthetic assistant licensing requirements, to allow for a wider range of acceptable curriculum to help increase the assistant population and orthotic and prosthetic practitioners' ability to serve more patients. The subject matter is currently being discussed in education, standard of care, and enforcement work groups. The work groups' conclusion will be presented at the next advisory board meeting later in 2026.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation also recently adopted a new rule at 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 60, Subchapter C, §60.32, and amendments to an existing rule at Subchapter D, §60.40, regarding the Procedural Rules of the Commission and the Department.

The adopted rules enable the Department to require certain individuals to furnish e-mail addresses for purposes of receiving correspondence. The rules additionally permit certain incarcerated individuals to apply for licensure prior to release. The rules are necessary to implement §§3 and 5 of House Bill (HB) 3743, 88th Legislature, Regular Session (2023). HB 3743 took effect on September 1, 2023.

The [adoption justification](#) was published in the November 22, 2024, issue of the *Texas Register* (49 TexReg 9510). The updated [rule chapter](#) is now available in the Texas Administrative Code.

The Department also reviewed the Orthotists and Prosthetists rules located at Title 16, Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 114 for re-adoption, revision, or repeal. This rule review is required every four years.

The Notice of Intent to Review was published in the Texas Register on November 22, 2024 (49 TexReg 9571), as part of a combined notice with other rule chapters undergoing simultaneous review. During the four-year review process, the Department determines whether the reasons for adopting or readopting these rules continue to exist.

The Commission readopted the rules at its April 9, 2025, meeting.

Staff attended and presented at the Texas Orthotic and Prosthetic Professionals in August 2025 and will present at the 2026 conference as well.

The primary stakeholder association is the [Texas Association of Orthotists & Prosthetists](#).

Podiatry

Podiatry is defined as the treatment of or offer to treat any disease, disorder, physical injury, deformity, or ailment of the human foot by any system or method. The term includes podiatric medicine.

Among their duties, podiatrists sign the written statement that accompanies the application for Disabled Person Placards and License Plates. Texas Transportation Code Chapter 681 "Privileged Parking" provides that the required notarized written statement or written prescription that accompanies the initial application for a disabled person identification placard or license plate can be issued by a person licensed to practice podiatry in this state or a state adjacent to this state for a person with a mobility problem caused by a disorder of the foot that limits or impairs that person's ability to walk.

The regulation of podiatrists and podiatric medical radiological technicians was transferred to TDLR on September 1, 2017. Through FY 2025, the total licensed population is 1,612 which includes podiatrists and podiatric medical radiological technicians.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted amendments to existing rules at their October 16, 2024, meeting for 16 TAC, Chapter 60, Procedural Rules of the Commission, and the Department as well as 16 TAC, Chapter 130. The proposed rule changes were published in the Proposed Rules section of the Texas Register in July 2024 and the Podiatry Advisory Board accepted the rule package at their August meeting. The proposed amendments impact Subchapter A, §130.1 and §130.2; Subchapter B, §130.20, 130.23, 130.27, and 130.28; Subchapter C, §130.30 and §130.32; Subchapter D §§130.40 – 130.42; Subchapter E, §§130.50, 130.51, 130.54, 130.55, and 130.57 – 130.59;

Subchapter F, §130.60; and Subchapter G, §§130.70, 130.72, and 130.73; proposed new rules at Subchapter B, §§130.21, 130.22, and 130.24; Subchapter C, §130.31, 130.34 – 130.37; and Subchapter D, §§130.43 – 130.48; and the proposed repeal of existing rules at Subchapter B, §§130.21, 130.22, and 130.24; Subchapter C, §130.31; Subchapter D, §§130.43 – 130.49; and Subchapter E, §130.52 and §130.53, regarding the Podiatric Medicine Program. The new rules create a new subchapter that organizes the rules by subject matter; Change the license terms from one year to two years for the: Podiatric Medical Radiological Technicians, Hyperbaric Oxygen Certificate, and Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Inhalation Conscious Sedation Registration, update the curriculum for podiatric medical radiological technicians, and remove redundant language. The new rules went into effect on December 1, 2024, for the Rad Tech changes and January 1, 2025, for the license term changes.

TDLR staff attended and presented at the APMA Annual Conference in Dallas in June of 2025 and the regional Southwest Foot and Ankle Clinic in Irving in September of 2025. TDLR staff will be present at both the TPMA conference and the Southwest Foot and Ankle Clinic in the fall of 2026. Staff will be available to assist licensees and will be presenting program and legislative updates during a conference session.

The primary stakeholder association is the [Texas Podiatric Medical Association](#).

Speech-Language Pathologists & Audiologists

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) evaluate, prevent, and treat speech, language, and swallowing disorders in individuals by applying non-medical principles, methods, and procedures for measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation, counseling, habilitation, rehabilitation, or instruction.

Audiologists provide services to help treat or modify communicative disorders involving speech, language, or auditory or vestibular function or other aberrant behavior relating to hearing loss.

There are currently over 27, 597 licensees in the speech-language pathologist and audiologist program at TDLR, which include SLPs, SLP interns, SLP assistants, Audiologists, Audiology interns, and Audiology Assistants.

With the passage of SB 2017 in the 88th Regular Session, a license is no longer required to sell over-the-counter hearing aids.

The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation adopted amendments to existing rules at 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 111, Subchapter A, §111.2; Subchapter D, §111.30 and §111.35; Subchapter E, §§111.40 – 111.42, §111.45, and §111.47; Subchapter F, §111.51, §111.52, §111.54, and §111.55; Subchapter H, §111.70; Subchapter I, §§111.80 – 111.82, §111.85, and §111.87; Subchapter J, §§111.90 – 111.92, and §111.95; Subchapter L, §111.115; Subchapter P, §111.150 and §111.154; and Subchapter Q, §111.160; new rules at Subchapter F, §111.50; Subchapter H, §111.75; and the repeal of existing rules at Subchapter C, §111.22; Subchapter F, §111.50, and Subchapter H, §111.75, regarding the Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist program.

The adopted rules update requirements for all speech-language pathology and audiology license types, including changes relating to license application and eligibility, education and clinical work, internship and supervision, practice and duties, and license terms and renewals. The proposed rules are necessary to implement changes recommended by Department staff during the required four-year rule review and changes recommended by the Licensing Workgroup of the Speech Language Pathologist and Audiologist Advisory Board to streamline the application process.

The [adoption justification](#) was published in the November 21, 2025, issue of the *Texas Register* (50 TexReg 7552). The updated Texas Administrative Code went into effective December 1, 2025.

Staff is scheduled to meet virtually and in person with over two dozen schools this spring to help graduating seniors understand the licensure process. Staff will also be attending and speaking at the TSHA conference this February in Ft Worth and attending Texas Academy of Audiology Annual Conference in San Marcos this fall.

The primary stakeholder associations are the [Texas Speech-Language Hearing Association](#) and the [Texas Academy of Audiology](#).

Transportation Network Company Report

The Transportation Network Company (TNC) program at TDLR is responsible for the regulation and licensing of TNCs throughout the state. Legislation effective since May of 2017 requires each TNC to establish a pilot program in one of their four largest markets servicing persons requiring the use of fixed-frame wheelchair accessible vehicles. The Pilot program is to begin no later than the 90th day after the date the company is issued a permit.

The initial Report is due to TDLR after the 100th day of beginning their pilot program and TNCs may submit supplemental reports to the department every 90th day after that. This pilot program takes place over the course of 2 years and is reported to the state legislature at its conclusion.

The Department works closely with TNCs and people with disabilities to capture suggestions for enhancing and improving the program and its services. As such, Administrative Rules regulating TNCs were adopted on October 20, 2017, by TDLR and became effective on December 1, 2017. The first TDLR license for a TNC was issued on January 3, 2018. There are currently 18 TNCs licensed in Texas.

Additional TDLR Accessibility Contact Information

Ombudsman Office

Contact: TDLR Executive office
Email: Executive@tdlr.texas.gov
Phone: 512-820-0358

Electronic and Information Resources Accessibility Coordinator

Contact name: *unavailable at this time*
Email:
Phone:

Title II ADA Coordinator(s)

Contact name: Jan Thomas
Email: Jan.Thomas@tdlr.texas.gov

TDLR website Accessibility Policy

[Website Policies](#) | [TDLR.texas.gov](https://tdlr.texas.gov)