



Listen ★ Learn ★ Lead

June 16, 2020

EDITION - 14



As swimming pools, beaches, and lakes across our state provide relief from the Texas sun, please remember the importance of water safety. Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death of children under the age of 5. Sadly, Texas has already lost 32 kids to drowning accidents in 2020, according to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

Drowning can happen in seconds, so please never leave a child unattended in a bathtub, pool, pond, lake, near a septic tank, or even around a bucket of water. A responsible adult should always supervise children around water, and make sure non-swimmers and new swimmers are never more than an arms length away. Use life vests when boating or swimming in deep, choppy water. Learn CPR, and enroll your children in swim lessons that teach them how to tread water, float, and how to get out of water should they fall in. Drowning is quick and silent, so please use these tips to help save a precious life.

Be safe and have fun this summer! And thank you for all you do to listen, learn, and lead in your homes, your jobs, and your community.



STATE OF TEXAS UPDATES

[Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas](#)

Governor Greg Abbott created the Strike Force to Open Texas to "safely and strategically restart and revitalize all aspects of the Lone Star State - work, school, entertainment, and culture." Seeking input and recommendations from the Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, Texas Attorney General, and Texas Comptroller, Governor Abbott has established minimum health standard protocols for industries and business operations. To view these standards and the corresponding checklists provided to keep our state's economy moving forward, please visit the [Open Texas](#) website.

Sunset Commission Update

Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick appointed me to serve on the Sunset Advisory Commission in January 2020. Members of the Commission are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House and include five senators, five representatives, and two members of the public.

Public input is essential to the sunset review process, and the public is encouraged to be involved at all stages. Individuals, organizations, and businesses that will be affected by an agency's operations and services have firsthand knowledge and experience to help us identify problems and opportunities as we work to make our state government more effective and more efficient.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the sunset process, find out what agencies are currently under review, and to read current and past reviews. [Click here](#) to submit public input.

Texas Armed Service Scholarship Program

My office is currently accepting applications for the [Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program \(TASSP\)](#). Interested applicants should be constituents of Senate District 8 and send a completed application, resume, and a letter outlining future goals to my district office (604 S. Watters Road, Suite 100; Allen, Texas 75013) or by email (Angela.Paxton@senate.texas.gov) on or before July 31, 2020.

TASSP is a program created by the Legislature in 2009 to encourage students to complete a baccalaureate degree and become a commissioned member of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, U.S.

Coast Guard, or U.S. Merchant Marine or become a commissioned officer in any branch of the U.S. armed services. Each legislative office has the opportunity to award a single scholarship each year for a college student who is in an ROTC program and meets the academic performance requirement.

To apply, please visit my Senate webpage and [click here](#) for a copy of the application and instructions.

DISTRICT INFORMATION AND ACCOLADES

[Leadership Prep School Scores Big in the Girls Go CyberStart Program](#)

Congratulations to a team of girls from Leadership Prep School in Frisco for being a top three team by state for the Girls Go CyberStart program. The Girls Go CyberStart Initiative was created to encourage more female students to use their creativity and critical thinking skills as they explore the growing field of cybersecurity. Teams of high school girls compete in this fun and challenging online program for an opportunity to win scholarships.

[Dallas County Emergency Small Business Assistance Program Opens](#)

The goal of the Emergency Small Business Assistance Program (EBAP) is to quickly provide eligible small businesses with emergency financial assistance (up to \$15,000) in the form of a small, forgivable loan. Pre-applications will be accepted now through June 28. [Click here](#) for eligibility requirements and to apply.

DALLAS COUNTY EMERGENCY SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**SUBMIT YOUR
PRE-APPLICATION
JUNE 15-28, 2020**

PROGRAM IS NOT FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVED.
A RANDOMIZED BORROWER SELECTION PROCESS WILL BE
CONDUCTED AT THE END OF THE PRE-APPLICATION PERIOD.

**FOR MORE INFO:
[HTTPS://NDCONLINE.ORG/NTXSMALLBIZ](https://ndconline.org/ntxsmallbiz)**

COVID-19 RELATED INFORMATION

COVID-19 Testing Sites

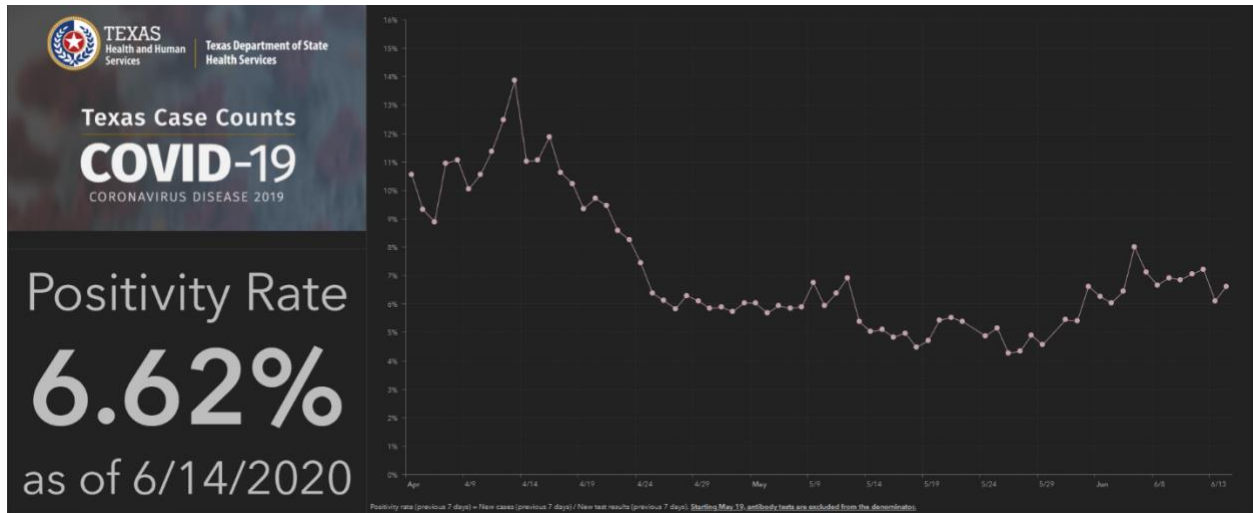
The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) maintains a list of COVID-19 in-person and drive-thru screening and antibody testing sites. [Click here](#) to find testing locations near you.

Additionally, DSHS offers a list of "things to consider when looking for a public or drive-thru testing site," including the following:

- Do I know the screening criteria for the public / drive-thru testing site?
- Do I know the operating hours for the public / drive-thru testing site?
- Do I know if I need a referral from my doctor before I visit the public / drive-thru testing site?
- Do I know if the public / drive-thru testing site is covered by my insurance provider and/or how the billing process works?
- Do I know what type of test is offered at the public / drive-thru testing site?

- Do I know how to get my testing results?

For more information about testing, please visit [DSHS' COVID-19 Testing Information site](#).



The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is [tracking COVID-19 cases](#) and updates its site with the latest information each day.

- Texas has 89,108 confirmed cases of COVID-19 out of 1,499,015 viral and antibody tests. An estimated 59,089 individuals have recovered.
- There are 1,667 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Collin County residents out of 33,818 viral and antibody tests. An estimated 1,292 individuals have recovered.
- There are 14,232 confirmed cases of COVID-19 involving Dallas County residents out of 126,602 tests. An estimated 9,065 individuals have recovered.

*These numbers are as of June 15, 2020.