



## COLLIN COUNTY

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**TO:** Collin County Health Care Board of Trustees  
**FROM:** Candy Blair, Manager, Health Care Services  
**DATE:** November 15, 2019  
**RE:** Amendment for Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) FY 2020 & FY 2021 Tuberculosis (TB) Prevention and Control (State Funds)

DSHS recently alerted our county that the state was executing amendments to increase funding for existing FY 2020 contracts as well as establish funding for FY 2021 contracts. Budget templates were provided for \$47,523 to be added per contract year for a total budget of \$200,351 for FY 2020 and \$200,351 for FY2021. The amendment is expected to extend the existing contract to a two year grant period 9/1/2019-8/31/2021 to support our county's TB prevention and control activities. The County match (20%) required for the funding remains unchanged and will be met by using existing employee personnel salaries. Due to the grant application deadline being 10/30/2019, the application was submitted to DSHS in a timely manner. CCHCS is striving to reduce the spread of TB, which is a communicable disease spread through the air. TB state funds assist local health departments in accomplishing activities to prevent and eliminate Tuberculosis in our communities.

After careful consideration of the guidance from DSHS on the use of the increased TB State funds, Collin County Health Care Services (CCHCS) plans to hire **one (1)** additional staff member, a Healthcare Analyst. For reference, DSHS recently implemented a new TB, HIV, STD, Integrated System (THISIS) for the electronic collection of TB data statewide. Subsequently, DSHS informed our county that due to the implementation of THISIS, the state has a critical backlog of TB data entry going back to 2016 that must be completed by strict deadlines in 2020. The state expects our county to support the entry of our TB case and contact data into THISIS for the current year, previous years, and going forward. As a result, they have explicitly encouraged us to use the increase in funds towards this project. The additional staff member requested will play a multifunctional role since their TB-specific expertise will be used in providing clinical support, contact investigation tasks, and THISIS data entry/analysis for hundreds of cases and contacts. The additional staff member is expected to be invaluable in shouldering the increased workload resulting from THISIS tasks in the coming years.

In summary, the TB State funding will be used for the salaries of four current plus one new TB Program staff members, including a nurse case manager, two healthcare analysis, outreach worker, and medical assistant. Other program costs such as mileage, travel for training, and medical supplies are included in the budget for state funding.