

**From:** [DSHS OpenRecords](#)  
**To:** [Carla Astudillo](#)  
**Cc:** [Anton,Lara \(DSHS\)](#); [Van Deusen,Chris \(DSHS\)](#); [Klein,Barbara \(HHSC/DSHS\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hospital Critical Staffing Shortage - Reference No. 20201201-10021  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2020 11:42:01 AM

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Ms. Astudillo,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your open records request. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Amanda Brown  
DSHS Open Records Program Specialist

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**From:** Carla Astudillo <castudillo@texastribune.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 30, 2020 11:16 AM  
**To:** DSHS OpenRecords <OpenRecords@dshs.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Hospital Critical Staffing Shortage - Reference No. 20201201-10021

**WARNING:** This email is from outside the HHS system. Do not click on links or attachments unless you expect them from the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Officer for Public Records:

This request is made under the Texas Public Information Act, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, which guarantees the public's access to information in the custody of governmental agencies. I respectfully request raw data — in a machine-readable database or spreadsheet format such as Excel, CSV, Access, SQL or XML — pertaining to critical staffing shortages collected by DSHS from each hospital as part of the [COVID19 Hospital Data Points](#) from the earliest date available through the latest date available.

The data should include all fields in the COVID19 Hospital Data Points that contain non-exempt information about critical staffing shortage, including but not limited to the following types of information:

- Hospital name and identifying hospital information, including but not limited to: Hospital name, CCN, OrgID (if available), State, County, ZIP
- Critical Staffing Shortage (Y/N)
- Critical Staffing Shortage anticipated within a week (Y/N)

- Staffing Shortage Details (Where the type of shortage is specified)

I would like to reiterate that I am seeking all fields containing non-exempt information about critical staffing shortages in the COVID19 Hospital Data Points collected by DSHS and gathered for each hospital. That means fields containing the above information, and fields containing any additional information not listed, but that would still be disclosable under the law. If there are any questions or if there are any issues with the request, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone (863-640-3089) or by email ([castudillo@texastribune.org](mailto:castudillo@texastribune.org)).

Disclosure of this information is in the public interest because providing a copy of the information about hospital resources during a pandemic primarily benefits the general public. I therefore request a waiver of all fees and charges pursuant to Section 552.267 of the act.

I shall look forward to hearing from you promptly, as specified in the law. Thank you for your cooperation.

Take care,  
Carla

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**Carla Astudillo**  
Data Developer

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