

LIBRARY DISTRICTS



TSDC



- Texas Library Districts are stand-alone and independent governmental entities, classified as special-purpose districts and political subdivisions of the state.
- Regulated by Chapter 326 of the Local Government Code. Authorized under Texas Constitution Article III, Section 48(e).
- Created to establish, equip, and maintain one or more public libraries for the dissemination of general information relating to the arts, sciences, and literature, and to make valuable information resources available to the community.
- There are 15 Library Districts in the State of Texas as of 2025.
- Governed by a five-member, unpaid, elected Board of Trustees, who serve two-year staggered terms, with elections typically held annually.
- Funded through a percentage of local sales and use taxes collected within their boundaries. However, Library districts are prohibited from holding a bond election, which restricts their ability to undertake capital projects.
- Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the Public Information Act, the Public Funds Investment Act, and various other laws pertaining to ethics, elections, finances, purchasing, and employment.
- Offer a wider range of programs, services, and resources, including expanded collections, technology upgrades, and community outreach initiatives.
- Contribute significantly to the local economy by supporting education, job skills development, and access to information for businesses.
- Serves as a community hub, with meeting room spaces for community meetings, as well as private meeting spaces for tutoring.