## Texas A&M System Agencies Summary - Senate

The Texas A&M System Agencies listed below are state agencies under the Texas A&M University System with a broad statewide mission encompassing research, teaching, and public service. Unlike institutions of higher education, these agencies do not have students and do not receive tuition.

- Texas A&M AgriLife Research (TAR)
  - TAR conducts research in agricultural, environmental, and life sciences. This includes research on livestock, plants, crops, and processing techniques to ensure Texas' agriculture system is competitive.
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension (TAES)
  - TAES provides educational and training programs through a network of county extension agents across the state. The program areas include health and safety, agriculture and natural resources, and leadership development.
- Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES)
  - TEES conducts research, provides continuing education, and develops technology to assist industry and the engineering workforce. TEES performs engineering and technology research on water, energy, manufacturing, and the environment across the state of Texas.
- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)
  - TEEX provides workforce training programs and technical assistance for first responders to enhance public safety and security (e.g., fire protection, law enforcement, water/wastewater, public works, environmental quality, etc.). TEEX also provides emergency response, search, and rescue operations statewide through Texas Task Force 1.
- Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI)
  - TTI identifies and solves transportation problems through research and testing. TTI also develops and implements new technologies for current and future transportation needs, and works closely with the Texas Department of Transportation.
- Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS)
  - TFS provides wildfire prevention, detection, and suppression service and administers the statewide Texas Wildfire Protection Plan. TFS also assists during all-hazard emergencies such as flooding, ice storms, tornados, and hurricanes. TFS is involved in reforestation efforts and urban forestry programs, and conducts applied research on forest insects and diseases.
- Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL)
  - TVMDL provides fee-based veterinary medical diagnostic services and drug testing which contributes to an animal and zoonotic disease surveillance system. TVMDL also performs drug tests for pari-mutuel racing animals and livestock shows. TVMDL is under Strategic Fiscal Review for the Eighty-sixth Legislative Session.

**Total Summary of Recommendations**

|  | 2018-19 Base | 2020-21 Recommended | Biennial Change ($) | Biennial Change (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| General Revenue | $355,072,544 | $356,401,829 | $1,329,285 | 0.4% |
| GR Dedicated | $53,306,644 | $51,306,644 | ($2,000,000) | (3.8%) |
| Federal Funds | $222,308,539 | $238,300,723 | $15,992,184 | 7.2% |
| Other Funds | $394,372,958 | $378,126,800 | ($16,246,158) | (4.1%) |
| **All Funds** | **$1,025,060,685** | **$1,024,135,996** | **($924,689)** | **(0.1%)** |

**Common Cross Agency Issues and Recommendations:**

- Recommendations generally include funding for each agency at baseline requested levels.

- Recommendations for all A&M System agencies reflect the following:

  - Funding to the agencies for infrastructure support within Brazos County is aligned with the General Academic Institutions' Infrastructure Support formula rate. Texas A&M System agricultural agencies also receive funding for infrastructure support outside Brazos County, which is proportionally allocated to those agencies by their percentage of total actual square footage.

**Agency Specific Issues and Recommendations:**

- Recommendations include increase of 30.0 FTEs at TAES due to the Healthy South Texas program with the Texas A&M University Health Science Center.

- Recommendations include increase of 24.8 FTEs at TEEX for Texas Task Force 2 operational readiness, technical assistance, and workforce development growth.
- $2.0 million increase in General Revenue and $2.0 decrease in General Revenue-Dedicated are due to a Method of Finance swap between Insurance Companies Maintenance Tax and Insurance Department Fees Account No. 8042 (General Revenue) and Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Account No. 5064 (General Revenue-Dedicated) at TFS. These funds are used for Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) grants.
- $16.0 million increase in Federal Funds driven by growth in Federal Grants, Awards, and sponsored research at TEES, TTI, and TFS.
- $13.3 million decrease in Other Funds driven by changes in proposals guidelines for foreign contracts at TEES and a projected decrease in license plate revenue at TAES.

**Rider Highlights:**

- Recommended Rider changes remove redundant license plate appropriation Riders in the TAES and TFS bill patterns that are unnecessary due to Article IX, Section 8.13 granting the same authority.