

# The Texas Center for Disability Studies

*Serving communities for over 35 Years*



Authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the **Texas Center for Disability Studies (TCDS)** has been a national leader in research, service delivery, integrated employment, and community education, serving individuals across the lifespan. We are disability experts dedicated to advancing independence, self-determination, and quality of life for people with disabilities and their families.

**1 of 68  
UCEDDs**

TCDS is a federally designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (**UCEDD**), funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**1 of 60  
LENDs**

TCDS is a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (**LEND**) program funded through the Autism Cares Act and administered through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## UCEDD 4 Core Functions

*The Texas Center for Disability Studies implements four core functions to guide its programming and decision making while staying consistent with the goals of the DD Act.*

### Interdisciplinary Training

*Prepare leaders to strengthen and increase the capacity of States and communities to serve people with disabilities.*

### Information Dissemination

*Disseminate disability information across Texas, nationally, and internationally that may be accessed and applied in diverse settings and circumstances.*

### Community Education and Service

*Serve the community to increase self-determination, independence, and productivity for individuals to be integrated and included in all facets of community life.*

### Research

*Conduct research to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families.*

# Projects, Trainings & Services

**Texas Technology Access Program** | Federally funded through the Assistive Technology Act, TTAP aims to improve the functional capabilities of people with disabilities by providing access to devices, tools, and services to help individuals gain independence and participate more fully in daily life, education and employment. AT loan library and demo sites are available across Texas.

**Autism Consortium of Texas LEND** | This program aims to improve health outcomes for people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other neurodevelopmental disabilities by providing graduate level training to the next generation of clinical, research, and community leaders.

**Genetics Education** | This series of webinars aims to positively impact the educational and health outcomes of individuals with genetic disorders and their families by informing professionals on genetic topics and resources.

**E4Texas** | This one year, post-secondary program at the University of Texas at Austin helps students with developmental disabilities gain educational and practical experience to prepare them for the workforce, combining academic learning with hands-on work experience.

**Autism Screenings** | TCDS sponsors community events throughout the year to facilitate autism and other developmental screenings (e.g., motor, vision, and oral).

## Annual Presentations & Peer Reviewed Publications

- Transition
- Health
- Communication
- Parent/Child Training
- Autism and other Developmental Disabilities

60

## Individuals Trained Annually

- LEND Program
- U.S. DoE Personnel Development Grant
- Disability Studies Program

300

## Annual Info and Referrals

TCDS faculty and staff lend their expertise to local organizations and community members

18,076

As leading  
**disability experts**  
in Texas, we...



Train  
Individuals



Increase  
Productivity



Provide Information  
and Resources



Include Lived  
Experiences



Increase  
Independence



Provide Individualized  
Supports



Conduct  
Research



Improve Quality  
of Life



### Contact Us:

512-232-0740 [disabilitystudies.utexas.edu](http://disabilitystudies.utexas.edu)



The University of Texas at Austin  
Texas Center for Disability Studies



## Community Feedback

*"The E4 program was incredible for our son. We saw great growth in his independence, problem solving skills, social interaction and in his ability to take on more tasks and responsibilities. Being able to live in a dorm with regular students, being integrated in the university community was a major step towards being an independent adult."*

- E4Texas Parent

*"Outstanding presentation! Loved hearing about the innovative approach and upcoming research and here in Austin! As a professional and parent of a child with ASD, thank you."*

- Attendee, Autism Consortium of Texas Webinars