Newborn Screening (NBS) Program Upcoming Changes
Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

Changes to Healthcare Provider Requirements Regarding the Use and Storage of Newborn Screening Blood Spot Cards

NBS Laboratory Website
The DSHS Newborn Screening Laboratory website has been updated (4/13/12).
Go to: [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/newbornscreening.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/newbornscreening.shtm) to access a wide range of resources on newborn screening and for detailed information on changes to healthcare provider requirements related to House Bill 411.

Educational Sessions
The DSHS Newborn Screening Program will be presenting information on House Bill 411 and changes to healthcare provider requirements as part of upcoming educational sessions throughout the state. Instructions for registration will be distributed through Regional Texas Health Steps Coordinators and through the DSHS Newborn Screening Email Distribution List. For more information, call 1-888-963-7111 Ext. 3198.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Educational Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Hosted by</th>
<th>Registration Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 4th</td>
<td>Austin</td>
<td>DSHS</td>
<td><a href="#">Click here to register</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16th*</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 18th*</td>
<td>Odessa</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 23rd*</td>
<td>Tarrant County</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29th</td>
<td>Tyler (tentative)</td>
<td>Mother of Frances Hospital</td>
<td>Register thru listserv invite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30th*</td>
<td>Bexar County</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1st*</td>
<td>Lubbock</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 3rd*</td>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>THSteps Event</td>
<td>Register thru THSteps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The Newborn Screening Laboratory will be participating presenters in Texas Health Steps Medical Training events and conferences. Texas Health Steps medical providers will receive details, full agendas, and registration information on these events from their regional Texas Health Steps coordinators. Presentations on House Bill 411 and related changes to healthcare provider requirements will be agenda items within the overall event.
Reminders

- Beginning on **not before** June 1, 2012, healthcare providers **MUST** distribute a new decision form to parents with each NBS specimen collection.
- The new decision form will be part (page 2) of the 2012 NBS specimen collection kits. The decision form will also be available (8½ X 11 format) on the DSHS NBS laboratory website.

FAQs

**What happens to the current kits on June 1, 2012?**

Current 2010 and 2011 NBS collection kits can and should continue to be used after June 1, 2012, through the expiration date on the kit. Healthcare providers **MUST** discard page 2 and distribute the 8½ X 11 version of the new decision form to parents with each NBS specimen collection.

**Where can healthcare providers get the 8½ X 11 version of the new Decision form?**

The 8½ X 11 version of the form will be made available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese on the DSHS NBS laboratory website in May of 2012.

**Can healthcare providers order the 2012 kits now?**

No. The 2012 kits will not be available for distribution to healthcare providers until May of 2012. Healthcare providers are asked to use up any 2010 and 2011 NBS kits prior to moving to the new 2012 kits.

**Additional Questions / Comments / Sign up for DSHS Newborn Screening Email Distribution List**

Call toll free: 1-888-963-7111 ext. 3198 or for local calls 512-776-3198

Email: NewbornScreeningLab@dshs.state.tx.us

Website: [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/newbornscreening.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/newbornscreening.shtm)
Parental Decision for Storage and Use of Newborn Screening Blood Spot Cards (Page 2 of 2012 Kits)

For informational purposes ONLY. DO NOT distribute this form to parents prior to June 1, 2012.

Example
Texas Newborn Screening Parent Information Form (Page 1 of 2012 Kits)

Example