



TEXAS  
Health and Human  
Services

★ Abilene State Supported Living Center ★

**OUR MISSION:**  
To empower people to make choices  
that result in a life of dignity and  
increased independence.

# AbSSLC News

Abilene SSLC

Week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026

## Designated Driver Cards

New Designated Driver Cards will be issued beginning 2/23. **Only the new cards (white) will be accepted starting Monday, 3/2.** You can get your new card by visiting the ADOA Office in the Administration Building. and signing a new responsibility statement.

## Emails & Texts

We continue to see a number of *misleading* emails that might be confusing come to email addresses across campus.

The email below, while not illegal, could easily confuse the reader and have them believe this is from our Retirement System (ERS) - in reality, this is from an outside company. Always be very cautious when receiving emails from outside the HHS system. If in doubt, delete it!

Texas HHS - Annual Retirement and Pension Meetings

Employee Retirement Assistance <bryce@theappointmentsetter.com>  
To: Geza,Jeff (HHS/DADS)

You forwarded this message on 1/29/2024 11:16 AM.  
If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.  
Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

**WARNING: This email is from outside the HHS system. Do not click on links.**

As a valued employee of Texas Health and Human Services, you are eligible for a free one-on-one consultation to answer your retirement, pension and benefit questions.

As part of this meeting, you will be provided information that will help you figure out:

- Your expected income when you retire
- How much longer you will have to work
- How you can save more money for retirement
- Which options have guaranteed income when you retire

Daytime appointments are going fast. Click below to see what's available.

[Click Here to Schedule Your Meeting](#)

## Questions & Answers ... Overtime

Recently (and from time to time) we receive complaints about the amount of overtime people are working. This usually mentions DSPs, but sometimes it references all staff. Unfortunately, these are all submitted anonymously, preventing us from responding directly. So, we thought we would share the actual numbers with everyone.

Overtime usage is tracked on a daily, weekly, monthly, and annual basis. Here are the results:

- Currently, Abilene ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the state in overtime usage for all employees. In other words, our employees (on average) work less overtime than almost every other facility in the state.
- Abilene usually ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in the state in overtime usage for all DSPs. In December, we were 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in both. We tend to go back and forth with another facility for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, depending on the month. Again, this means that our DSPs (on average) work less overtime than other DSPs in the state.
- The 25 DSPs that worked the most Overtime all requested to work their hours. Many of these worked as many as the state policy would allow, demonstrating that the people that want to work Overtime are being utilized before asking those that do not, whenever possible.
- Our Fill Rate is the best it has been since 2012.
- Our Turnover Rate is the best it has been since 2007.
- Our Tenure for DSPs has increased from an average of less than a year in 2005 to 2.6 years in 2025, which is the highest it has ever been.

If you have any questions, please let us know. {And, if you leave your name, we will respond to you.}

## Checking CAPPs

Checking your information in CAPPs is very important – you should make updates as needed (as your home address and/or phone numbers change) but it's a good practice to just verify what's in the system every 3 months or so.



**The Survey of Employee Engagement**  
is coming soon!

# Shout Outs!

Shout Out to **Angela Scott** (Infirmery). She has not called in sick since Sept/Oct 2022 (Days of Covid). She comes in basically every day and only takes off when we make her, unless it is an appointment that she can't miss. Even when there is bad weather, she has ALWAYS made it to work, not missing a beat. She is also early to work daily at least 30 minutes if not more. She cares and worries about the Individuals even when at home, and part of the reason she is always here wanting to make sure they get the care they deserve. She doesn't look for praise in what she does. She literally is always doing something and only take a moment break. Thank you Angela!

We're so thankful for **Sara Simons** at 5972 Service Avenue and all the positivity she brings to the home. Even on our hardest days, she always seems to be able to bring a smile to the residents and the workers faces.

I would like to say that I am so thankful for our **Motor Pool Team!** They always do a wonderful job making sure that our vehicles are in top shape and safe to drive. I recently went out of town for training, and they provided me with a wonderful vehicle and great help, they even help me when I have questions while out of town which is a big relief! Thank you to the best motor pool team in the State!

Shout Out to **Jeff Goza**. Anytime I call or send an email he responds. He has also been a mentor and has helped me through some of the toughest times, whether it is work related or life in general. I would also like to add that he is very helpful to many no matter what department. He tends to be everyone's go to. I am sure for him at times it is exhausting but know you are appreciated. Thank you for what you do and who you are.



## Life Safety Code Tip of the Week

Portable fire extinguishers are in-place, not obstructed, in correct location and at correct height, and have current monthly inspection completed on sticker.

# Shout Out Abilene!

We want to hear from you! Have a **suggestion** on how to make Abilene SSLC the best place ever to live & work? Have a **concern** to express? Want to **recognize someone** for their amazing work? **Shout Out and let us know!**



SCAN ME



You can also **email** your Shout Out to [jeff.goza@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:jeff.goza@hhs.texas.gov) or **text** it to 325.370.4525!