

Continuing Education for County Officials

- The duties and responsibilities of county government officials are increasingly complex as counties strive to provide an array of governmental services to an increasingly diverse and growing population.
- To effectively manage governmental services and respond to local issues, quality and relevant continuing education is essential.

AgriLife Extension's Response

- Created in 1969, the V.G. Young Institute of County Government provides continuing education programs for local government officials, including county judges and commissioners, emergency services districts, property tax professionals, and county tax assessor-collectors.
- The institute meets the educational needs of county officials and the public by anticipating, identifying, and addressing the challenges and opportunities faced by Texas county governments.
- Educational needs are met through programs, published materials, and counsel to county officials, community organizations, and citizens across the state.



- In 2021, continuing education hours were provided to 2,358 county officials through the V.G. Young Institute of County Government as well as extension-supported programs. Participants included 827 county commissioners, 102 county judges, 157 county tax assessor-collectors, and 1,272 other county personnel.



Economic Impacts

- Average annual salaries for county judges and commissioners, county treasurers, county and district clerks, and county tax assessor-collectors were used to value the salary impact of these county officials.
- In 2021, by providing high-quality continuing education and training to the state's county officials, AgriLife Extension's V.G. Young Institute directly supported 2,358 county officials, with an annual salary base of \$138.2 million.
- In addition, this continuing education program equips Texas county officials with knowledge and skills to more effectively manage their annual budgets. In all, county budgets in Texas total approximately \$16.3 billion.