

2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The City of Round Rock is strong, diversified and expanding, largely due to best-in-class municipal management, community leadership, regional collaboration, and execution of economic development initiatives by the Round Rock Chamber. The City of Round Rock, and Texas as a whole, consistently exhibits a strong pro-business posture and low regulatory environment.

The Round Rock Chamber asks members of the 89th Texas Legislature to join us by embracing the following key public policy priorities which are critical to our region's continued growth and success.



KEY PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

TAX

- Oppose efforts to change the statewide assessment of sales tax from origin to destination-based sales tax.
- Support continued use of a locally approved ½ cent sales tax collected by cities to fund infrastructure improvements and economic development initiatives.
- Identify further policies that can lower the property tax burden for businesses and homeowners.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Support local authority and flexibility in the use of economic development tools and other incentives that promote new investment and job creation, such as Chapters 311, 312, 380, and 381.
- Support the reauthorization of R&D tax credits to boost competitiveness.
- Support updates to the Jobs, Energy, Technology & Innovation Act to make the program more competitive and effective for Texas to attract more large-scale investments and high-paying jobs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Support the expansion of regional and statewide planning, strategies, and funding mechanisms that ensure grid reliability, modernization, and affordability, including increased power generation and distribution to meet current and forecasted increases in demand.
- Support comprehensive, long-term water planning, significantly increased funding, and timely implementation toward measurable expansion of statewide water resources.
- Support identifying, securing, and leveraging additional funds for transportation and granting flexibility in funding local transportation projects assisting in local and high-volume corridors.
- Support efforts to adapt to and mitigate increased extreme weather events to facilitate disaster preparedness and community resiliency.

WORKFORCE AND EDUCATION

- Advocate for continued funding and support for outcomes-based funding for community colleges and support policies and funding requests that recognize the growth of institutions in the Round Rock area including Austin Community College, Texas State University, Texas State Technical College, Texas A&M Health Science Center, and other institutions that are critical for developing and maintaining a strong talent development pipeline.
- Protect prior investments and support additional funding to fully fund public K-12 education, including increasing Basic Allotment to match the current rate of inflation since 2019, indexing Basic Allotment every biennium to keep up with inflation and updating the cost of education index to ensure that public schools across Texas have the resources needed to succeed.
- Maintain existing funding and promote legislation for additional workforce development programs that help employers attract, upskill, and reskill their labor pool and increase opportunities to expand and diversify the workforce.
- Advocate for affordable quality childcare and housing options that enable workforce participation.



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Promote increased investment in the system created by HB8 during the 88th Session to ensure institutions such as Austin Community College are rewarded for increasingly achieving outcome incentives created in that legislation.

TEXAS A&M HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Support robust appropriations to Texas A&M Health resulting in adequate distributing of funding to the Round Rock campus for faculty, equipment, and other important needs.

TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Support initiatives that increase funding for Texas State Technical College (TSTC) through the creation of a \$1B permanent endowment and changes in TSTC's Retuned-Value Formula by updating wage requirements and including continuing education students in calculations, as well as supporting policies that continue the expansion and operations of the East Williamson County campus.

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Support efforts to increase the Higher Education Funding Formula and the Higher Education Fund and allow Texas State to qualify for a full distribution share of the Texas University Fund to increase funding opportunities to support activities at the Round Rock campus, especially in the area of life sciences.

HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

Promote healthcare policies that control costs, expand access, and improve the quality of life for Texans through value-based, high-quality and coordinated care, stabilized health insurance marketplace and accessible private coverage options, and promoting mental health programs to ensure public safety.

HEALTHCARE TALENT

Promote legislation that aims to fill the workforce needs of the healthcare system, including programs for cardiovascular, radiologic, surgical technologists and technicians, respiratory therapists, nurses, and residency slots in Texas to keep more physicians in our state.

DATA CENTERS

Support continued funding for the Data Center Sales Tax Exemption so that Texas can remain a national leader in the technology and AI industries.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, LIFE SCIENCES & INNOVATIVE INDUSTRIES

Support Texas leading the nation in responsible AI regulation and emerging technology policies to ensure ethical, innovative growth without limiting businesses, entrepreneurs, and inventors from investing and innovating in Texas.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Support policies and funding that help to establish and maintain a strong startup culture through continued access to markets, development of programs, and increasing opportunities to access capital for small businesses.

LOCAL CONTROL

Oppose legislation that impedes the ability for municipalities to execute policies for economic opportunities, business and community success, and quality of life improvements.

**ROUND ROCK
CHAMBER -
BUSINESS ADVOCACY**



LEARN MORE