



John William Hellerstedt, MD
Commissioner
Texas Department of State Health Services

Dr. Hellerstedt earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Pittsburgh and completed his General Pediatrics Residency at the University of Texas-San Antonio Health Science Center. He moved to Austin in 1981 and spent 18 years working as a pediatrician and departmental chair at Austin Regional Clinic.

Dr. Hellerstedt first entered public service as the Medical Director of the Bureau of Medicaid Managed Care and CHIP at the Texas Department of Health in 2000 and became the Medical Director for the Medicaid CHIP Division of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission in 2001.

After seven years with the state government, he accepted a position as Vice President of Medical Affairs and Associate Chief Medical Officer at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas. He became the Associate Chief Medical Officer at Seton Family of Hospitals in 2009 and the Chief Medical Officer in 2013.

Dr. Hellerstedt is a member of the Texas Medical Association, Travis County Medical Society, and Texas Pediatric Society. His honors and awards include the 2007 Texas Pediatric Society Child Advocate of the Year. He has served the Central Texas community through his membership in and leadership of numerous committees at the Children's Hospital of Austin, Brackenridge Hospital, the Seton Network, and Austin Independent School District.

In January 2016, Dr. Hellerstedt took on the role of Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services. With his leadership, the agency strives to achieve the vision of "A Healthy Texas" and fulfill the mission of improving the health, safety, and well-being of Texans through good stewardship of public resources, and a focus on core public health functions.