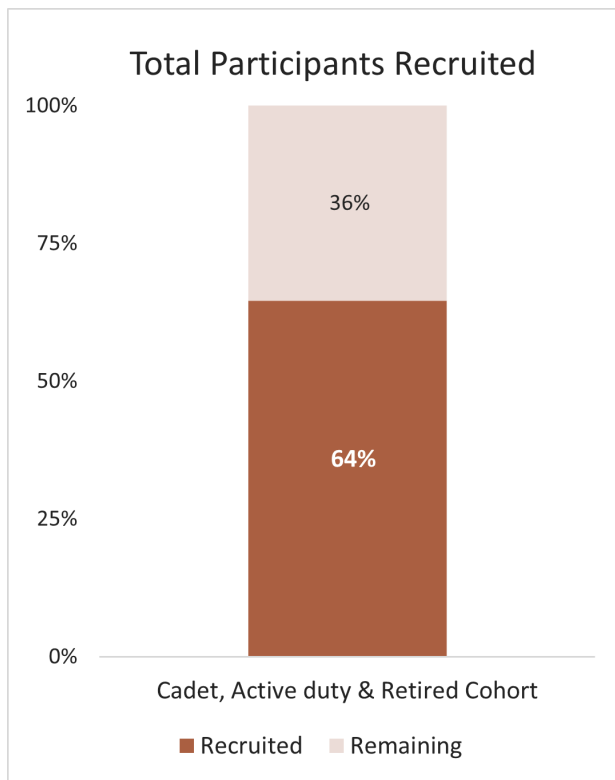


Texas Firefighter Cancer Study

March | 2026

Announcements

Recruitment Progress Update



In February and early March, the Texas Firefighter Cancer Study (TFCS) research team conducted another successful round of baseline sampling with retirees at the Houston Professional Fire Fighters Association (HPFFA), IAFF Local 341. A total of **52** retirees participated on February 21, surpassing our previous sampling campaign.

On February 26, we also completed baseline sampling with a cadet class at the Val Jahnke Training Facility, bringing this cohort to **106** total participants, exceeding our goal by 6%.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all our participants. Your continued commitment and engagement make this study possible. We are also grateful to the Houston Fire Department, Val Jahnke Training

Facility, and HPFFA for their on-site support and help recruiting participants. Your time, assistance, and generosity play a vital role in advancing this important effort.



UTHealth[®] Houston School of Public Health

TFCS Research Team with Houston retirees, and onsite at the Val Jahnke Training Facility.

Dallas Baseline Sampling Campaign

The baseline sampling campaign for the Dallas active duty and retiree cohort took place on March 2 & 3 at the Dallas Fire Fighters Association, IAFF Local 58. A total of **70** participants enrolled in the study during this visit.

Thank you to our stakeholders, the Dallas Fire-Rescue, and the Dallas Fire Fighters Association – IAFF Local 58 for coordinating our visit and helping us prepare for this effort.

Dallas Baseline Sampling Campaign



TFCS Research Team at Dallas Fire Station 57 and Dallas Fire Fighters Association – IAFF Local 58.

Fort Worth Baseline Sampling Campaign

The baseline sampling campaign for the Fort Worth active duty and retiree cohort was on March 4 & 5 at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex Administration. A total of **43** participants enrolled in the study during this visit.

We are grateful to the Fort Worth Fire Department and the Fort Worth Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 440 for their partnership and support.

Fort Worth Baseline Sampling Campaign



TFCS Research Team inside the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex Administration.

Texas Firefighter Occupational Cancer Epidemiology

The Texas Firefighter Occupational Cancer Epidemiology study focuses on cancer incidence among firefighters statewide. By linking firefighter-specific databases with the Texas Cancer Registry (TCR), we will characterize cancer rates, identify high-risk occupational exposures, and generate evidence to inform protective measures for firefighters.

We have partnered with the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to evaluate cancer incidence among firefighters and are currently awaiting approval from their institutional review board (IRB), which will formally launch our analysis.

Texas Firefighter Cancer Screening Promotion

We are pleased to share that the UTHealth Houston IRB has approved the Texas Firefighter Cancer Screening Promotion project within our larger study.

We are currently recruiting **active-duty firefighters in Houston** to participate in a focus group discussion to better understand cancer screening practices and barriers to care

within the Houston Fire Department. These sessions will be conducted either in person at your respective fire station or virtually via Microsoft Teams.

If you are interested in participating, please email TFCS@uth.tmc.edu and reference “**Cancer Screening Focus Group**” in your message.

Coming Up

Visit 2 Post Exposure Sampling

The TFCS research team is prepared to begin Visit 2, which is the first of two follow-up visits with cadets after their live fire suppression training at the Houston Fire Department’s Val Jahnke Training Facility.

Houston, TX (Cadets)

March 17 and 19, 2026

Val Jahnke Training Facility
8030 Braniff St, Houston, TX 77061

Baseline Sampling

The TFCS research team is making its way across Texas for our baseline sampling campaigns. Please note the upcoming events below:

Brownsville, TX (Active duty and Retirees)

March 18-19, 2026

DHR Health Specialty Clinic
4770 North Expressway 77 Suite 303 Brownsville, TX 78526

El Paso, TX (Active duty and Retirees)

March 24-25, 2026

El Paso Fire Department Wellness Center
9565 Diana Dr. El Paso, TX 79924

Stakeholder Advisory Board & Stakeholders Meeting

Our upcoming Stakeholder Advisory Board and statewide Stakeholders Meetings are scheduled. These meetings help ensure the study remains aligned with firefighters’ needs across Texas and keeps our partners informed on our progress.

In-person and Virtual

March 26, 2026

Houston Professional Firefighters Association
1907 Freeman St, Houston, TX 77009

Scientific Advisory Board Meeting

Our next Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) meeting is scheduled. These meetings bring together subject-matter experts to review study progress, offer scientific guidance, and ensure the research continues to follow rigorous and evidence-based practices.

April 15, 2026

Stay tuned for updates in next month's newsletter!

Ways to Engage

Connect with Us

Visit our [webpage](#) to stay up-to-date on our study. Share this newsletter with your fellow firefighters and encourage them to join our mailing list.

If you are interested in taking part of this study or have questions, please submit an inquiry using the [Contact Us](#) form or by email at: TFCS@uth.tmc.edu



[TFCS Website](#) | [Contact Us](#)

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