



March 13, 2025

County Health Department

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| County Health Department | 3 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|

County Health Department

Reference Number: CTAS-548

Unlike the board of health, the county health department is a required agency. It is to be headed by the county health director, who is appointed by the commissioner of health and is compensated, at least in part, by the state. The commissioner also appoints a county health officer who must be a physician. If the county health director is a physician, he or she may also serve as the county health officer. T.C.A. § 68-2-603.

The county legislative body must provide necessary office facilities and funds for the functioning of the county health department. T.C.A. § 68-2-604. All private acts relative to county boards of health or county health departments remain in effect after the passage of T.C.A. §§ 68-2-601 *et seq.*, 68-2-606.

Source URL: <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/eli/county-health-department>