



CATHERINE WRIGHT-STEELE

Texas Department of Agriculture
Administrator for Food and Nutrition

Catherine Wright Steele serves as an Administrator for the Texas Department of Agriculture's (TDA) Food and Nutrition Division (FND). She has the pleasure of overseeing a cross section of the division's critical services and special initiatives. Her responsibilities include oversight of: the Policy and Nutrition section and providing clear and concise policy and nutrition guidance and technical assistance; the Education and Program Improvement section working to develop and facilitate training and promoting continuous improvement of TDA's nutrition program administration through technology, performance metrics and analysis; and the Administration section focused on development of tools and resources to engage stakeholders through innovative initiatives, opportunities and broad based public awareness along with specialized FND systems and data management. Catherine supports the hardworking TDA FND team and is dedicated to enhancing collaboration among staff and stakeholders to find the opportunities for efficiency and improvements that further nutrition program compliance, accountability and effectiveness while providing superior customer service.

Catherine Wright Steele brings a public policy perspective to the FND management team. She joined the agency in 2004 as a member of the Governmental Affairs Division where she worked for ten years. She served as Director of this division with responsibilities such as promoting and executing the agency's state and federal legislative priorities and intergovernmental relations. Before beginning her state service, Catherine Wright Steele worked at the South Plains Association of Governments dedicated to supporting needs at the local, predominantly rural, level of government in and round Lubbock, Texas. Preceding her time in local government she served at the federal level in Congressman Larry Combest's Washington D.C. office. Catherine is a Lubbock native and graduate of Texas Tech University. She currently resides in the Austin area with her husband and children.