

Table 5. Required and Authorized Services of Cities and Counties in Tennessee.

City/County	Required Services		Authorized Services	
	Service	Source of Mandate	Service	Source of Authority
City	Elections	TCA 6-53-101	Administrative hearings	TCA 6-54-1001
	Plan of services for cities with at least 1,500 people that incorporated since 1998 and annexed territories (includes, but not limited to, police protection, fire protection, water service, electrical service, sanitary sewer service, solid waste collection, road and street construction and repair, recreational facilities and programs, street lighting, and zoning services)	TCA 6-1-201; 6-18-103; 6-30-104; 6-51-102	Airports	TCA 42-5-101 <i>et seq.</i>
	Road maintenance	TCA 7-31-101	Courts	TCA 6-4-301; 6-21-501; 6-33-102; 16-17-101
			Education	TCA 49-2-401
			Emergency medical and ambulance services	TCA 7-61-102
			Energy service	TCA 7-36-103
			Fire protection	TCA 6-1-203; 6-19-101; 6-21-701 <i>et seq.</i>
			Flood control and disaster relief	TCA 7-32-101
			Healthcare facilities	TCA 68-11-204; 9-21-105
			Health department	TCA 68-2-605
			Housing	TCA 13-20-401 <i>et seq.</i>
			Law enforcement	TCA 6-54-301
			Parks and recreation	TCA 11-24-103
			Planning	TCA 13-4-101
			Public place and facilities improvements	TCA 7-32-101
			Public works projects	TCA 9-21-105
			Sidewalk construction	TCA 7-31-105
		Storm water facilities	TCA 69-221-1103	
		Tourism development	TCA 7-69-101 <i>et seq.</i>	
		Water and sewer system	TCA 7-35-401	

City/County	Required Services		Authorized Services	
	Service	Source of Mandate	Service	Source of Authority
County	Air pollution control (certain counties)	US Clean Air Act; TCA 68-201-101	Affordable Housing (Metro Nashville)	TCA 5-9-113
	Constitutional offices (legislative body, county executive, sheriff, trustee, register of deeds, county clerk, assessor of property)	Constitution Article VII, Section 1	Airports	TCA 42-5-101 <i>et seq.</i>
	County roads	TCA 54-7-102; 54-7-109	Animal control	TCA 5-1-120
	Court system	Constitution Article VI, Section 13; TCA 5-7-104; 8-24-102; 8-20-101, 37-1-101 <i>et seq.</i> ; 16-15-101 <i>et seq.</i>	Board of health	TCA 68-2-601
	Disposition of unclaimed bodies	TCA 38-5-118	Codes enforcement	TCA 5-20-101 <i>et seq.</i>
	Education	TCA 49-2-101; 49-3-351; 49-3-356; 49-3-366	Constable services	TCA 8-10-108
	Elections	TCA 2-12-101	Coroner services	TCA 8-9-101
	Emergency management (civil defense)	TCA 58-2-117; 58-2-121	Drug interdiction programs	TCA 38-11-203
	Health department	TCA 68-2-603	Emergency communications	TCA 7-86-105
	Jails	TCA 5-7-104; 41-4-140; 41-4-115	Emergency medical and ambulance services*	TCA 7-61-102
	Land surveys	TCA 8-12-101	Fire protection	TCA 5-17-101; 5-17-102
	Law enforcement	TCA 8-8-213; 8-24-102; 8-20-101	Healthcare facilities	TCA 68-11-204; 9-21-105
	Maintenance of public records	TCA 10-7-401	Housing	TCA 13-20-501
	Planning (comprehensive growth plan)	TCA 6-58-101 <i>et seq.</i>	Legal services	TCA 5-6-112
	Post-mortem examinations and investigations	TCA 38-7-104	Libraries	TCA 10-3-101
	Preservation of local and state history	TCA 5-18-101	Misc. services	TCA 5-9-101
	Storm water management (certain counties)	US EPA; TCA 68-221-1101	Parks, recreation, and conservation	TCA 11-24-104; 11-21-104
	Solid waste management	TCA 68-211-851; 68-211-863; 68-211-866	Planning	TCA 13-3-101
			Public works projects	TCA 9-21-105
			Tourism development	TCA 7-69-101 <i>et seq.</i>
		Urban-type public facilities (storm and waste water treatment, solid waste, water supply, fire protection, emergency medical services)	TCA 5-16-101	
		Workhouses	TCA 41-2-101; 41-2-109	

Source: Tennessee Constitution. Tennessee Code Annotated.

*Emergency medical and ambulance services are not legally mandated, but have become a practical necessity in almost all counties as private service that is not subsidized is usually not economically feasible. (Source: County Technical Assistance Service.)