



DISTRICTS OF INNOVATION AMENDMENT & RENEWAL

Texas Education Agency

OVERVIEW

TEC §12A.007	AMENDMENT OR RENEWAL OF LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN. <i>A local innovation plan may be amended, rescinded, or renewed if the action is approved by a vote of the district-level committee established under Section 11.251, or a comparable committee if the district is exempt from that section, and the board of trustees in the same manner as required for initial adoption of a local innovation plan under Section 12A.005.</i>
19 TAC §102.1313	<i>(a) A district innovation plan may be amended, rescinded, or renewed if the action is approved by a majority vote of the district-level committee established under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §11.251, or a comparable committee if the district is exempt from that section, and a two-thirds majority vote of the board of trustees. (b) The district shall notify the commissioner of education of any actions taken pursuant to subsection (a) of this section along with the associated TEC exemptions and local approval dates.</i>

A designated District of Innovation may choose to amend or renew its plan at any time pursuant to applicable sections of Texas Education Code (TEC) and Texas Administrative Code (TAC). The processes for amending and renewing a plan are different, however. Please see the information below.

Amendment

19 TAC §102.1313(a)	(1) Amendment. <i>An amendment to an approved plan does not change the date of the term of designation as an innovation district. Exemptions that were already formally approved are not required to be reviewed.</i>
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- An amendment may be made to a DOI plan at any time during the term of the plan.
- An amendment to a DOI plan does not require the district to repeat the adoption process in its entirety (see “Process Requirements” chart on page 3).
- An amendment to a DOI plan does not change the date of the term of the plan; the original adopted term must remain the same.

Renewal

19 TAC §102.1313(a)	(3) Renewal. <i>During renewal, all sections of the plan and exemptions shall be reviewed and the district must follow all components outlined in §102.1307 of this title (relating to Adoption of Local Innovation Plan), except that a district is not required to notify the commissioner of education of the board's intention to vote on the adoption of the proposed plan under §102.1307(a)(2) of this title. (A) A district must meet eligibility requirements under §102.1303 of this title (relating to Eligibility) in order to renew an innovation plan.</i>
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- To be eligible to renew, a district's final and most recent academic accountability rating must be at least acceptable (19 TAC §102.1303(a)).
- The board of trustees may not vote on the final approval of renewal of a DOI plan if the district is assigned either a final or preliminary rating below acceptable performance (19 TAC §102.1303(b)).
- The district must repeat the adoption process outlined in 19 TAC §102.1207, however 3 specific steps are not required to be repeated (see “Process Requirements” chart on page 3).
- The term of the DOI plan may be extended for up to an additional 5 years during renewal.

- A district may only have one innovation plan at any given time (19 TAC §102.1311). A renewed plan takes effect only after the term of the district's current innovation plan expires. In the instance that the district intends for the term of a renewed plan to begin prior to the expiration of its current plan, the renewed plan supersedes the district's current plan at that time and the current plan is considered void.

19 TAC §102.1313(a)(3)	<i>(B) In the event that a district fails to renew a plan prior to the expiration of its term, a district may renew the plan in the six months subsequent to the plan's date of expiration in order to maintain a continuous designation as a district of innovation.</i> <i>(i) The term of a renewed plan, subject to §102.1311 of this title (relating to Term), may not begin prior to the date on which the board votes to adopt the renewed plan, unless the plan is adopted during the six months subsequent to the plan's date of expiration.</i> <i>(ii) If a plan is renewed during the timeline described in this subparagraph, the renewed plan will have a term not to exceed five calendar years, beginning on the date of expiration of the prior term.</i> <i>(iii) If a plan is renewed during the timeline described in this subparagraph and changes are made to the plan during the renewal process, those changes will be in effect from the date of adoption of the renewed plan through the expiration date of the renewed plan, unless amended, rescinded, or terminated.</i> <i>(iv) If changes are made to the plan during the renewal process, the district shall mark the changes with the date of the vote to renew the plan in order to denote the earliest date those changes may take effect.</i> <i>(v) A district whose plan is not renewed during the timeline described in this subparagraph shall comply with all previously adopted exemptions immediately upon expiration of the plan and begin the adoption process over again in its entirety should the district wish to pursue designation as a district of innovation in the future.</i>
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- Best practice is to renew the plan so that the term of the renewed plan is effective no later than the date on which the plan was to expire. Should the district fail to renew the plan prior to its expiration date, the district may renew the plan in the six months subsequent to the plan's date of expiration. A plan renewed during this six-month period must:
 - Have a term not to exceed five calendar years **beginning on the date of expiration of the prior term** (ex: plan expired 8/1/23, plan renewed 10/1/23, term of renewed plan begins: 8/1/23).
 - Mark changes made to the plan with the *date of adoption* of the renewed plan in order to notate when those changes took effect as any changes made to the plan during renewal are not effective until the *date of adoption* regardless of the term referred to in the bullet above (ex: plan expired 8/1/23, plan renewed 10/1/23 *with changes*, term of renewed plan begins: 8/1/23, changes are effective on 10/1/23 (date of adoption) rather than 8/1/23 (beginning of term)).
- A district that does not renew the plan before or during the six months subsequent to the plan's expiration date shall:
 - comply with all previously adopted exemptions effective with the **expiration date of the plan**.
 - Begin the entire adoption process over again should it wish to pursue DOI designation again in the future.

Process Requirements

PROCESS REQUIREMENT	AMENDMENT	RENEWAL
Board Resolution/Petition signed by majority of District Advisory Committee (the district-level committee established under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §11.251)	NO	NO
Public Hearing by School Board on whether to develop a plan (TEC §12A.002)	NO	NO
Final version of the proposed plan has been available on the district's website for at least 30 days	NO	YES
The board of trustees has notified the commissioner of education of the board's intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan (see applicable "Notification" section below)	NO	NO
The district-level committee established under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §11.251, has held a public* meeting to consider the final version of the proposed plan and has approved the plan by a majority vote of the committee member (*meeting must be public for renewal)	YES	YES
The board of trustees adopts a proposed local innovation plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the board	YES	YES
The district notifies the commissioner of approval of the plan along with a list of approved TEC exemptions by completing the agency form provided in the figure in this subsection (see applicable "Notification" section below)	YES	YES
The district shall ensure that a copy of the local innovation plan is posted on the district's website in accordance with the TEC, §12A.0071, for the term of the designation as an innovation district.	YES	YES
Not later than the 15th day after the date on which the board of trustees finalizes a local innovation plan either through adoption, amendment, or renewal, the district shall provide a copy of [link to] the current local innovation plan to the Texas Education Agency for posting on the agency website	YES	YES

[NOTE: During renewal, the district may also make amendments to the plan as the steps for amendment are already part of the renewal process.]

Notification: Amendment

When notifying the commissioner of the board's actions as they relate to **amending** a DOI plan, please refer to the following chart (NOTE: notification is required only upon the adoption of an amendment):

Item	Description
Email (preferred) or Letter (choose either or both)	Email: To: Accred@tea.texas.gov (the district may choose to cc: Commissioner@tea.texas.gov) Letter: Texas Education Agency Attn: Accreditation 1701 N Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701
Body	Notify the commissioner that the board has approved an amendment to the plan and include the following: • Adoption date (date of board meeting) • Amendments made (TEC sections changed, added, or removed from plan) • Link page on district's website on which the amended plan is posted
Attachments	Updated checklist of exemptions reflecting <i>all</i> sections of code from which the district is exempt (both newly and previously adopted) [Figure: 19 TAC §102.1307(d)] See our Tips for Completing the DOI Checklist.

Notification: Renewal

When notifying the commissioner of the board's actions as they relate to **renewing** a DOI plan, please refer to the following charts (NOTE: notification is required only upon adoption of a renewed DOI plan):

Item	Description
Email (preferred) or Letter (choose either or both)	Email: To: Accred@tea.texas.gov (the district may choose to cc: Commissioner@tea.texas.gov) Letter: Texas Education Agency Attn: Accreditation 1701 N Congress Avenue Austin, Texas 78701
Body	Notify the commissioner that the board <i>adopted</i> the renewed plan (after adoption): • Adoption date (date of board meeting) • Link to page on district's website on which the final renewed plan is posted
Attachments	Updated checklist of exemptions reflecting <i>all</i> sections of code from which the district is exempt (both newly and previously adopted) [Figure: 19 TAC §102.1307(d)] See our Tips for Completing the DOI Checklist .

Resources

- TEA Districts of Innovation Webpage: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/district-initiatives/districts-of-innovation>
- Texas Education Code, Chapter 12A, Districts of Innovation: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.12A.htm>
- Adopted Commissioner's Rules - 19 TAC Chapter 102, Subchapter JJ, Innovation District: <https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/ch102jj.pdf>
- Tips for Completing the DOI Checklist: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/district-initiatives/checklist-tips.pdf>