

Dallas Independent School District

Local Innovation Plan 2025 Amendments

2022-2027 Local Innovation Plan Amendment Timeline

Date	Action
August 14, 2025	Communication and invitation sent to DOI Amendment Committee for 8/19 meeting
August 19, 2025	DOI Committee Meeting hold meeting to approve amendment (<i>majority vote required</i>)
August 21, 2025	District Advisory Committee (DAC) holds public meeting to approve the DOI plan (<i>majority vote required</i>)
August 28, 2025	Board of Trustees vote to approve the DOI Amendments ($\frac{2}{3}$ <i>majority vote required</i>)
August 29, 2025	Post the final approved amendments on the District website and notify the TEA Commissioner of approval of the plan.
August 29, 2025	Provide a copy of [link to] the new DOI amendments to the TEA for posting on the agency website.

2022-2027 Local Innovation Plan Amendments

(1) GRIEVANCES

Exemptions

Texas Education Code § 26A.001 (GRIEVANCE POLICY), § 26A.002 (TIMELINES FOR FILING AND APPEAL), § 26A.003 (POSTING OF PROCEDURES AND FORMS).

This exemption does not include exemptions from requirements imposed upon or authority bestowed upon the Texas Commissioner of Education or the Texas Education Agency such as those in § 26A.001(f), § 26A.001(h), and § 26A.001(i).

Texas Education Code § 26.011 (GRIEVANCES).

This exemption is limited to the following language in § 26.011(a): “that complies with Chapter 26A”.

Benefits of Exemptions

These sections of the Education Code limit the District’s ability to maintain local control and an orderly process over grievances. The aforementioned exemptions allow the District to maintain local control over the District’s grievance policies, procedures, and process.

Implementation Guidance

The District already has, and will continue to have, an orderly process whereby grievances are addressed through the District’s local publicly posted grievance policies and procedures which include timelines for filing grievances and appeals, grievance and appeal forms, meetings/conferences, and decisions, and which also prohibit retaliation against an individual who files a grievance.

(2) PROBATIONARY CONTRACTS

Exemption

Texas Education Code § 21.102(b) (PROBATIONARY CONTRACT)

Texas Education Code § 21.102 addresses when a district shall or may employ a person as a teacher under a probationary contract. Under § 21.102(b), the probationary period may not exceed one year for a person who has been employed as a teacher in public education for at least five of the eight years preceding employment by the district.

“Teacher” for purposes of § 21.102 and this exemption means a principal, supervisor, classroom teacher, school counselor, or other full-time professional employee who is required to hold a certificate issued under Texas Education Code Chapter 21 Subchapter B or a nurse.

This exemption is limited to the requirement in § 21.102(b) that teachers who have been teaching in public education for at least five of the last eight years prior to being employed by the district must be offered a term contract following one year on a probationary contract (the “5-of-8 rule”).

Benefits of Exemption

Exemption from the 5-of-8 rule in § 21.102(b) will allow the District to issue probationary contracts for two additional years for experienced teachers who are newly hired in the District, which provides additional time to better evaluate the teachers before offering term contracts.

Implementation Guidance

This exemption only applies to newly hired teachers who qualify for a chapter 21 contract (those hired for the 2025-2026 school year and subsequent school years) and does not apply to district teachers who have been continuously employed by the district as teachers during or before the 2024-2025 school year.

This exemption will have no effect on non-certified DOI teachers employed by the district, as such teachers are not employed under Chapter 21 contracts.

(3) ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Exemption

Texas Education Code § 33.026 (ACQUISITION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS)

Texas Education Code § 33.026 requires school boards to approve every library material procured or donated. This exemption would allow Dallas to keep its current process for library acquisition.

Benefits of Exemption

This exemption allows the District to maintain local control over the District's policies, procedures, and process for library materials. This requirement slows down the timely purchase and distribution of library books to campuses. Dallas ISD currently has professional processes and safeguards in place for selecting and vetting titles.

This methodology emphasizes local autonomy, relying on the expertise of trained educators and librarians for book selection. This localized strategy customizes selections to student requirements, expediting book accessibility by circumventing administrative impediments. Trustees are thus able to concentrate on governance. Transparency remains paramount, necessitating clear communication regarding selection protocols.

Implementation Guidance

Dallas ISD ensures all new titles are suitable for student use through a meticulous review process. District-level collection development librarians vet these titles using professional review sources, confirm age/grade-level alignment, and adhere to rigorous collection development standards consistent with state law.