

The Standards Adoption Procedure: How a Proposed Standard is Finalized as a New Standard

As an ASNI Accredited Standards Developer, NOCSAE standards adoption procedures follow the ANSI essential requirements for due process to insure fairness, transparency, and consensus.

The proposal of a new standard can occur once the Director of Research, the Technical Director, or any committee of technical experts assembled by the Board of Directors is satisfied that scientific evidence exists to merit the development of a new standard. The process requires that a written report of findings be sent to the Executive Director, who will in turn provide such findings to the Board and to the Standards Committee for further action.

A proposed new standard is submitted in the same manner as proposed revisions to an existing standard. After public comment and discussion, should a majority vote of the Standards Committee agree to pursue development of a proposed new standard, the proposed new standard shall remain in “proposed” status for a minimum of 12 months from the approval vote. During this time, additional comments, input, and objections will be solicited, documented, and addressed. Any interested party may additionally request the opportunity to meet with the Director of Research or the Technical Advisor in person regarding any proposed standard or proposed standard revision.

The Director of Research or the Technical Advisor shall take such steps as may be necessary to address all written comments and shall present a written report of the status of the proposed standard revision to the Standards Committee for discussion prior to the first anniversary of the proposed new standard.

Once a “Proposed New Standard” has been in approved status for minimum of 12 months, and all comments, objections and input have been received and considered, the Standards Committee, by a 2/3 vote, elevate the proposed new standard to become a “Final New Standard,” which will be considered effective 12 months from the date of approval as a “Final New Standard.”

The complete “NOCSAE® Summary of Procedures for Adoption and Implementation of Standards and Revisions to Existing Standards” can be found [here](#).