

Approval Process for K-12 Science Textbooks 2011-2012

September 2011

- DOE posts Superintendent's Memo seeking nominations for qualified educators and content experts to serve on the textbook review committees.
- The Department of Education (DOE) invites publishers to submit science textbooks and instructional materials for review.
- Publishers indicate their intent to submit textbooks on completed certification and agreement forms that are required by the Board in its state approval process.

October 2011

- Review committees of K-12 educators and content experts with advanced degrees in the field are determined and notified.
- DOE reviews the certifications and agreements and works with publishers to address concerns. Incomplete forms may result in the textbook being removed for consideration for review.

November 2011

- DOE conducts a webinar with Science Textbook Review Committee members.
- DOE notifies the publishers of the evaluation committee members for the purpose of sending all the textbooks under consideration for approval to these reviewers.
- Committee members begin using the evaluation criteria to review the textbooks independently for Standards of Learning (SOL) correlations, content, bias, and design for instructional planning and support.

February 2012

- Members of the committee submit their individual textbook analyses to DOE.

March 2012

- The full evaluation committee convenes to reach consensus on its reviews of the submitted science textbooks.

April 2012

- The consensus evaluations are shared with publishers.

May 2012

- Publishers are given an opportunity to respond to the committee's reviews and recommendations.

July 2012

- The Board receives the proposed list of textbooks for first review, along with information from the textbook publishers' certifications and agreements.

August 2012

- During a 30-day public comment period, the public is invited to review copies of the books that have been placed around the state and to provide comment to the Board.

September 2012

- The Board reviews all public comment, considers the list, and approves the textbooks. DOE posts a list of approved textbooks with prices and information from the textbook publishers' certifications and agreements on the DOE's Web site.

Ongoing

- The public has the opportunity to provide ongoing feedback regarding concerns with the approved science textbooks.