

Innovation Schools Act of 2008- Application Processes

Innovative School Application

1. The local school board shall receive and review each innovation plan for creating an innovation school zone and either approve or disapprove the plan within sixty days after receiving the plan.



2. If the local board rejects the plan it shall provide a written explanation of the basis for its decision.



3. A public school or group of public schools may resubmit an amended plan at any time after denial.

Innovative School Zone Application – Initiated by participating schools

1. The local school board shall receive and review each innovation plan for creating an innovation school zone and either approve or disapprove the plan within sixty days after receiving the plan.



2. If the local board rejects the plan it shall provide a written explanation of the basis for its decision.



3. A public school or group of public schools may resubmit an amended plan at any time after denial.

Innovative School Zone Application – Initiated by school district

1. A local school board may initiate and collaborate with one or more public schools of the school district to create one or more innovation plans or one or more innovation school zones.



2. In creating an innovation school zone, each public school that would be affected by the plan must be given the opportunity to participate in the creation of the plan.

A plan to create an innovation school zone may include all the public schools of the district.



3. *The local school board approves this plan.*

District of Innovation Application

1. If the local board approves a plan to create an innovation school zone or an innovation plan or plans, it may proceed to seek designation of the school district as a district of innovation from the State Board of Education pursuant to 22-32.5-107, C.R.S.



2. A local school board that seeks designation as a district of innovation shall submit one or more innovation plans or plans for creating an innovation school zone to the commissioner for review and comment by the commissioner and the state board within sixty days after receiving a local school board's plan.



3. The commissioner and the state board shall respond to the local school board with any suggested changes or additions to the plan, including but not limited to suggestions for further innovations or for measures to increase the likelihood that the innovations will result in greater academic achievement within the innovation schools or innovation school zones.



4. Based on the commissioner's and the state board's comments, the local school board may choose to withdraw and resubmit its innovation plan or plans for creating an innovation school zone.



5. Within sixty days after receiving a local school board's innovation plan or plans for creating an innovation school zone, the state board shall designate the local school board's school district as a district of innovation unless the state board concludes that the submitted plan: a) is likely to result in a decrease in academic achievement in the innovation schools or innovation school zones; or b) is not fiscally feasible.



6. If the state board does not designate a school district as a district of innovation, it shall provide to the local school board a written explanation of the basis for its decision.



7. The local school board may resubmit an amended innovation plan or plan for creating an innovation school zone and seek designation of its school district as a school district of innovation at any time after denial.