

## Chapter 157. Hearings and Appeals

### Subchapter A. General Provisions for Hearings Before the State Board of Education

*Statutory Authority: The provisions of this Subchapter A issued under the Texas Education Code, §31.151, and Texas Government Code, §2001.004, unless otherwise noted.*

#### §157.1. Scope and Purpose.

This subchapter shall govern the proceedings in all contested cases before the State Board of Education where:

- (1) notice and opportunity for hearing is expressly required by other law; and
- (2) the hearing is not exempted from the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (Texas Government Code, Chapter 2001).

*Source: The provisions of this §157.1 adopted to be effective March 31, 2004, 29 TexReg 3175.*

#### §157.2. Request for Hearing; Transfer to State Office of Administrative Hearings.

- (a) All proceedings under §157.1 of this title (relating to Scope and Purpose) shall be heard by the State Office of Administrative Hearings, pursuant to the procedures set forth in 1 TAC Chapter 155 (relating to Rules of Procedures).
- (b) In cases in which the Texas Education Agency is not the petitioner, petitions for review or requests for hearing shall be filed with the State Board of Education (SBOE) within 30 calendar days after the decision, order, or ruling complained of is first communicated to the petitioner, except as otherwise provided by law or SBOE rule.
- (c) At the time the petitioner files a request for hearing with the SBOE regarding administrative penalties pursuant to the Texas Education Code, §31.151, all parties to the hearing are prohibited from contacting members of the SBOE concerning the factual or legal issues presented in the hearing until a final decision is rendered.

*Source: The provisions of this §157.2 adopted to be effective March 31, 2004, 29 TexReg 3175; amended to be effective March 7, 2012, 37 TexReg 1513.*

#### §157.3. Board Consideration and Adoption of Proposal for Decision.

- (a) After the time for filing exceptions and replies to exceptions expires and the proposal for decision is forwarded to the Texas Education Agency, the State Board of Education (SBOE) shall consider the proposal for decision and any exceptions and replies in public session and shall enter a written decision adopting or modifying and adopting the proposed decision or remanding the matter to the State Office of Administrative Hearings for further proceedings.
- (b) No public testimony shall be heard on the question of adopting, modifying, or remanding the proposal for decision. No information other than the record of the proceedings conducted by the administrative law judge, the proposal for decision, and the exceptions and replies of the parties shall be heard, considered, or discussed by the SBOE concerning the contested case.
- (c) All final decisions or orders of the SBOE shall be in writing and signed by the chair, if voting in favor of the decision, or by a member selected by those voting in favor of the decision. A final decision shall include findings of fact and conclusions of law separately stated. Findings of fact, if set forth in statutory language, shall be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of the underlying facts supporting the findings.
- (d) The decision of the SBOE may incorporate by reference the proposal for decision in whole or in part, and such incorporation by reference may constitute compliance with subsection (c) of this section. If the

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decision of the SBOE modifies the proposal for decision in any respect, the SBOE shall specify the portions modified and shall set out in full the affected language as modified by the decision of the SBOE.

- (e) Party representatives shall be simultaneously notified either personally, by facsimile transmission, or overnight courier of each decision or order. For purposes of §157.4 of this title (relating to Motions for Rehearing), a party present at a meeting of the SBOE at which a public vote is taken shall be deemed notified of the decision or order on the date of the vote.

*Source: The provisions of this §157.3 adopted to be effective March 31, 2004, 29 TexReg 3175; amended to be effective March 7, 2012, 37 TexReg 1513.*

**§157.4 Motions for Rehearing.**

- (a) In the absence of a finding of imminent peril, a motion for rehearing is a prerequisite to a judicial appeal.
- (b) Motions for rehearing will be in conformance with the Texas Government Code, §2001.146.

*Source: The provisions of this §157.4 adopted to be effective March 31, 2004, 29 TexReg 3175.*