



A–F Accountability Rating System Updates: 2027 Ratings

A–F is a tool to help meet continuously improved goals for students.

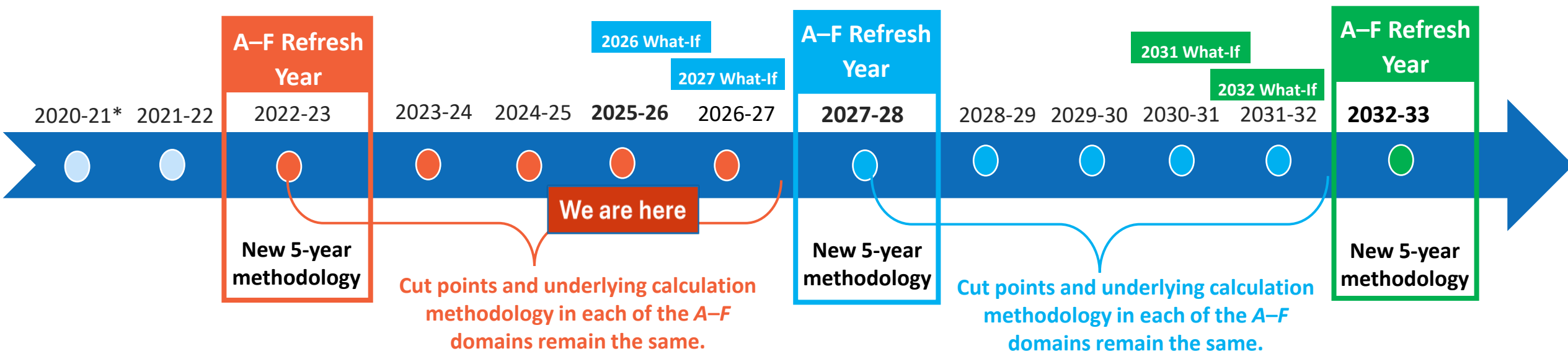
There are several key design commitments built into A–F to help ensure it works as an effective continuous improvement tool while accurately recognizing performance:

1. Ratings reflect better of achievement or progress
2. School performance is evaluated through multiple valid measures
3. Ratings are based on defined criteria, not a fixed distribution
 - “A” reflects performance consistent with reaching long-term student goals
 - “C” reflects average performance for the baseline year
4. The system design remains static in most years

A–F Design Commitment:
The system remains largely
unchanged year to year. 2027
is a static year.

The A–F system remains the same for 5 years.

We don't keep changing the bar, as this allows for better year-over-year comparisons. But we continuously review feedback to make design changes once every five years.



New HB 8 Implications

- 5-year refresh now explicitly codified
- The commissioner cannot raise cut scores outside of the refresh cycle
- Refresh rules must be communicated two years before the refresh (Adopt Manual Late Summer 2026)
- What-if ratings must be provided for those two years (2026 and 2027 What-Ifs)

In 2027, the A–F Accountability System remains static.

- **There are no changes** to cut points, domain, or indicator methodology for 2027 accountability ratings.
- The rules for the 2027 accountability year have been previously adopted and are **re-adopted** as annually required.
- The manual will be open for public comment on December 12, 2025.

Year of Accountability	Proposed Rule Open to Public Comment	Effective Date of Final Accountability Manual
2014	5/30/14	8/7/14
2015	5/29/15	8/4/15
2016	5/27/16	8/11/16
2017	4/14/17	6/27/17
2018	5/18/18	8/7/18
2019	5/3/19	8/5/19
2020	5/1/20	7/21/20
2021	4/16/21	7/13/21
2022	5/13/22	8/11/22
2023	5/19/23	11/14/23
2024	2/23/24	5/14/24
2025	2/23/24	3/27/25
2026	4/17/25	6/29/25
2027	12/12/25	April 2026

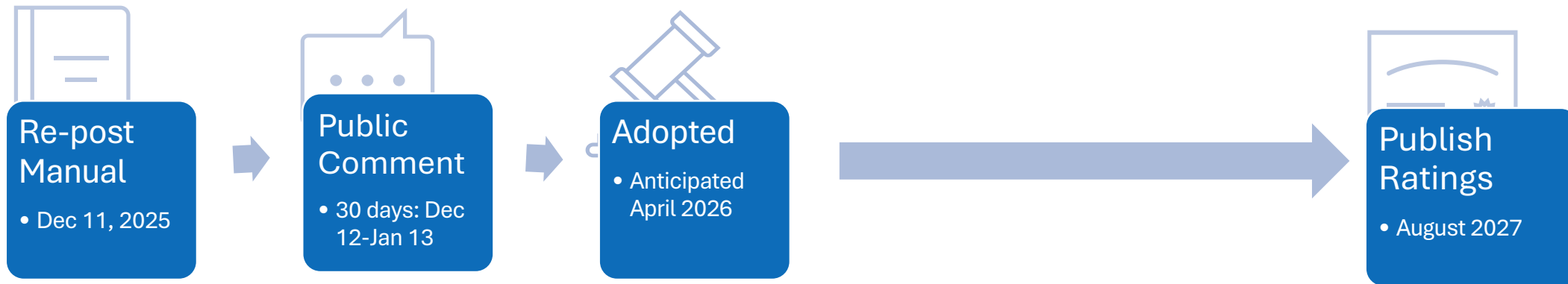
2027 A–F Accountability Rules adoption will take place before the school year.

- The A–F Accountability Rating System Manual and its proposed rules for 2026 Accountability Ratings will be published even earlier, before the start of the 2026-27 school year.
- The manual is anticipated to be effective in **early April 2026.**

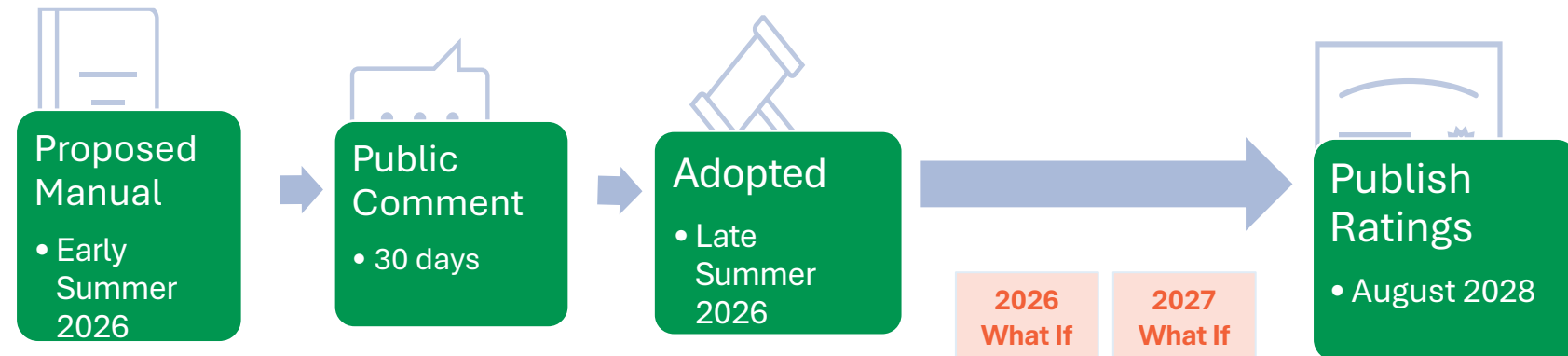
Year of Accountability	Proposed Rule Open to Public Comment	Effective Date of Final Accountability Manual
2024	2/23/24	5/14/2024
2025	2/23/24	3/27/2025
2026	4/17/2025	6/29/2025
2027	12/12/2025	April 2026

Dual Timeline of A–F Manual Adoption

Re-adoption of rules for 2027 Ratings



Adoption of rules for 2028 Ratings



New HB 8 Implications

- Annual rules that will be applied for that school year must be communicated by July 15
- Refresh rules must be communicated two years before the refresh (Adopt Manual Late Summer 2026)
- What-if ratings must be provided for those two years (2026 and 2027 What-ifs)

Previously adopted upgrades in effect in 2027.

- **There are no changes** to cut points, domain, or indicator methodology for 2027 accountability ratings.
- The rules for the 2027 accountability year were previously adopted and will be re-adopted as annually required.
- Previously adopted updates in effect in 2027:
 - **Programs of Study and Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Alignment:** College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) credit will be earned on 2027 accountability for successfully earning an approved IBC from either the 2022-25 list (with sunseting limit) **or** the 2025-30 list, with CTE **Completer** status in an aligned program of study.
 - **College Preparatory Course Requirements:** College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) credit will be earned on 2027 accountability for those courses meeting requirements aligned between districts and the partnering IHEs taken by students who were in their **12th grade year**.

Reminder: CCMR Credit through an IBC and Aligned Program of Study



Phase-in of IBCs and Alignment with Programs of Study

Approved IBC List: Earning an approved IBC from v3 (2022-2025) or v4 (2025-2030) list receives CCMR credit on 2027 accountability. This is the last year to report v3 IBCs. v3 IBCs are subject to a sunseting limit.

Program of Study Phase-in (CTE Completer): The earning of an approved IBC also requires earning CTE Completer status in the career and technical education program of study aligned with that IBC.

Annual Graduates	Account ability Year	CCMR Credit Requirement			
Class of 2026	2027	Earn IBC (2022–2025 v3 list with sunseting limit & 2025-2030 v4 list) plus Completer in aligned program of study			
		v3 list with 20% cap	or v4 list	and	Completer
Class of 2027	2028	Earn IBC (2025-2030 v4 list) plus Completer in aligned program of study			
		v4 list		and	Completer

IBC list v4 announced via [TAA November 6, 2025](#)

* Note, only Earned counts. In PEIMS, there is a specific code for Earned, a separate code for Passed but no Earned, and one for Failed

Reminder: CCMR Credit through College Preparatory Courses

Phase-in of College Prep 12th Grade Requirement and Reviewed and Approved College Prep Courses

College Preparatory Grade 12: Only courses completed in the 12th grade are eligible for CCMR credit through college prep. The grade of the student at the time of the course will be based on the grade submitted in the TSDS PEIMS Summer submission. A student must be in the required grade at any time during the school year when the course credit was received.

Approved College Preparatory Course List: Beginning with annual graduates from the Class of 2027 (2028 accountability), only college prep courses from the approved list will be eligible for CCMR credit.

Annual Graduates	Accountability Year	College Prep Course List	Grade of Course
Class of 2026	2027	Any course meeting requirements aligned between district and the partnering IHE(s)	12th Grade Only (SY 25-26)
Class of 2027	2028	TEA College Prep Approved List (v1.0 and v1.1)	12th Grade Only (SY 26-27)

Every year, there are updates to improve clarity and understanding.

- Additional edits to the Accountability Manual are made to support educators and to reflect stakeholder needs.
 - This includes clarity in the pairing process and the alternative education (AEA) provisions. Language was added to clarify that paired data from the Closing the Gaps domain are used for School Improvement identification. The phrase "charter school campuses" was removed and replaced with "all" at adoption.
- To further refine the accountability appeals process, the following revision was made:
 - A granted Closing the Gaps appeal can update comprehensive, targeted, or additional targeted support intervention federal identifications.

Legislative Update: County District Campus Number (CDCN)

- TEA assigns county-district-campus (CDC) numbers to instructional campuses as defined in the Texas Education Data Standards. Within any given year, districts or charter schools may need to update one or more CDC numbers due to closing old schools, opening new schools, or changing the grades or populations served by an existing school.
- In accordance with anticipated changes to 19 TAC §97.1066, the deadline for campus requests outlined in the 2027 Accountability Systems Manual has been moved from September 1 to **May 31**.

Key Points and Summary of Changes

- The manual for 2027 accountability ratings **re-adopted** prior methodology.
- The manual for 2027 accountability ratings has an adoption date **before** the 2026-27 school year.
- **Summary of A-F Changes:**
 - Programs of Study and Industry-Based Certification (IBC) Alignment: College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) credit will be earned on 2027 accountability for successfully earning an approved IBC from either the 2022-25 list (with sunseting limit) or the 2025-30 list, with CTE Completer status in an aligned program of study.
 - College Preparatory Course Requirements: College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) credit will be earned on 2027 accountability for those courses meeting requirements aligned between districts and the partnering IHEs taken by students who were in their 12th grade year.
- **Changes Related to A-F:**
 - Related to Federal Identification: A granted Closing the Gaps appeal can update comprehensive, targeted, or additional targeted support intervention federal identifications.
 - Related to campus number requests: In alignment with anticipated changes to 19 Texas Administrative Code §97.1066, the campus request deadline reflected in the 2027 Accountability Rating System Manual is May 31, moved from September 1.