Process to Become a District of Innovation Texas Education Code (TEC) Chapter 12A

1. **Board Resolution**
   - TEC 12A.001(c)(1)
   - (c) Consideration of designation as a district of innovation may be initiated by:
     - (1) a resolution adopted by the board of trustees of the district

2. **Petition signed by majority of District Advisory Committee**
   - TEC 12A.001(c)(2)
   - (c) Consideration of designation as a district of innovation may be initiated by:
     - (2) a petition signed by a majority of the members of the district-level committee established under Section 11.251.

3. **Board appoints committee to develop plan with:**
   - TEC 12A.002(a)
   - (a) Promptly after adopting a resolution under Section 12A.001(c)(1) or receiving a petition under Section 12A.001(c)(2), the board of trustees shall hold a public hearing to consider whether the district should develop a local innovation plan for the designation of the district as a district of innovation.

4. **Plan posted online for 30 days**
   - TEC 12A.005(a)(1)
   - (1) comprehensive educational program with innovations, and
   - TEC 12A.005(a)(2)
   - (2) list of Education Code provisions to be exempt
   - TEC 12A.005(b)
   - (b) A board of trustees may adopt a proposed local innovation plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the board.

5. **Plan sent to commissioner (no approval required)**
   - TEC 12A.005(a)(3)
   - (3) the district-level committee established under Section 11.251 has held a public meeting to consider the final version of the proposed plan and has approved the plan by a majority vote of the committee members, provided that the meeting required by this subdivision may occur immediately before and on the same date as the meeting at which the board intends to vote on adoption of the proposed plan.

6. **District Advisory Committee holds public meeting, passes plan by majority vote**
   - TEC 12A.005(b)
   - (b) A board of trustees may adopt a proposed local innovation plan by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the board.

7. **Public hearing by school board**
   - TEC 12A.002(a)
   - (a) A local innovation plan must:
     - (1) be developed for a school district before the district may be designated as a district of innovation.

8. **Public hearing by school board**
   - TEC 12A.003
   - (a) A local innovation plan must:
     - (1) provide for a comprehensive educational program for the district, which program may include:
       - (A) innovative curriculum, instructional methods, and provisions regarding community participation, campus governance, and parental involvement;
       - (B) modifications to the school day or year;
       - (C) provisions regarding the district budget and sustainable program funding;
       - (D) accountability and assessment measures that exceed the requirements of state and federal law; and
       - (E) any other innovations prescribed by the board of trustees; and
     - (2) identify requirements imposed by this code that inhibit the goals of the plan and from which the district should be exempted on adoption of the plan, subject to Section 12A.004.

9. **Upon completion of above, school board approves final plan by 2/3 majority**
   - TEC 12A.005(b)
   - (b) A school district designated as a district of innovation shall ensure that a copy of the district’s current local innovation plan is available to the public by posting and maintaining the plan in a prominent location on the district’s Internet website.

10. **District notifies commissioner of approval of the plan along with a list of approved TEC exemptions by completing TEC 12A.0071(a)**
    - TEC 12A.0071(b)
    - (b) Not later than the 15th day after the date on which the board of trustees adopts a proposed local innovation plan, adopts a proposed amendment of a local innovation plan, or renews a local innovation plan, the district shall provide a copy of the current local innovation plan to the agency. The agency shall promptly post the current local innovation plan on the agency’s Internet website.

11. **District posts and maintains plan online in prominent location**
    - TEC 12A.0071(c)
    - (c) On adoption of a local innovation plan, the district:
      - (1) is designated as a district of innovation under this chapter for the term specified in the plan, subject to Section 12A.006;
      - (2) shall begin operation in accordance with the plan; and
      - (3) is exempt from state requirements identified under Section 12A.003(b)(2).

12. **District sends plan to the Agency within 15 days of adoption**
    - TEC 12A.008
    - (The term of a district’s designation as a district of innovation may not exceed five years.)

13. **Plan in effect for up to 5 years**
    - TEC 12A.005(c)
    - (c) The board of trustees may not vote on adoption of a proposed local innovation plan unless:
      - (1) the final version of the proposed plan has been available on the district’s Internet website for at least 30 days.
      - (2) the board of trustees has notified the commissioner of the board’s intention to vote on adoption of the proposed plan;