

NCPDP Ballot Process and Timeline General Overview

NCPDP ballots are generated when the membership via a consensus driven process approves Data Element Request Forms (DERF) submitted by the industry for the creation of new NCPDP Standards or the modification of existing NCPDP Standards. ECL DERFs are NOT balloted. See <https://standards.ncdpd.org/Our-Process.aspx> for more information

New Ballots or Recirculation of Ballots may occur after each NCPDP Joint Technical Work Group Meetings normally held in February, May, August and November of each year. Ballot dates are determined based on the actual Joint Technical Work Group Meetings and are open for 45 days.

1. New Ballots are prepared after the February and August Joint Technical Work Group Meetings. Ballot results are shared and comments (if received) are adjudicated at the May and November Joint Technical Work Group Meetings respectively.
 - a. February Ballots contain DERFs approved at the prior November Joint Technical Work Group Meetings and the February Joint Technical Work Group Meetings
 - b. August Ballots contain DERFs approved at the prior May Joint Technical Work Group Meetings and the August Joint Technical Work Group Meetings
2. Recirculation Ballots occur based on outcomes of the adjudicated comments received on the New Ballots. Recirculation Ballots, if necessary, are prepared after the May and November Joint Technical Work Group meetings. New comments received on Recirculation Ballots are discussed (not adjudicated) at the following August and February, respectively, Joint Technical Work Group meetings.

Valid and Approved Ballots are those having received votes from 60% of the NCPDP Consensus Group, a 75% approval rating, no appeals for process and approval by the NCPDP Board of Trustees. After NCPDP Board of Trustees approval is received, the NCPDP Standards/Implementation Guides contained in these ballots are published with any associated documents and posted to the NCPDP website.

NCPDP Standards publication dates are associated to the NCPDP Joint Technical Work Group Meetings in which they were determined Valid and Approved. The general Publication timeline for valid ballots:

- Recirculation Ballots reviewed at February Work Group are published in April of same year
- Ballots adjudicated at May Work Group are published in July of same year
- Recirculation Ballots reviewed at August Work Group are published in October of same year
- Ballots adjudicated at November Work Group are published in January of the next year

DERF Deadline	WG DERF Approval	Ballot Period	WG Ballot Adjudication	Recirculation Required	Recirculation Ballot Period	WG Recirculation Review	Version Publication Date (Board Approved)
January 2020	February 2020	March 2020 - April 2020	May 2020 WG Mtg.	No			July 2020
January 2020	February 2020	March 2020 - April 2020	May 2020 WG Mtg.	Yes	June 2020 - July 2020	Aug. 2020 WG Mtg.	October 2020
April 2020	May 2020 (held for Aug. 2020 ballot)	Sept. 2020 – Oct. 2020					

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July 2020	August 2020	Sept. 2020 – Oct. 2020	November 2020 WG Mtg.	No			January 2021
July 2020	August 2020	Sept. 2020 – Oct. 2020	November 2020 WG Mtg.	Yes	Dec. 2020 – Jan.2021	Feb. 2021 WG Mtg.	April 2021
October 2020	November 2020 (held for Feb. 2021 ballot)	March 2021 - April 2021					

*Excludes ECL DERFs