TEC §39.053 requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to account for high school students who earn an industry-based certification within the student achievement domain of the public school accountability system. The purpose of the IBC list is to identify certifications that prepare students for success in the workforce, military, or postsecondary education.

New developments in industry occur regularly; therefore, TEA anticipates updating the 2022-2025 IBC list with the 2025-2029 IBC list.

Six evaluation criteria are defined in 19 TAC <u>§74.1003</u>. The six criteria are certification, industry recognized and valued, attainable by a high school student, portable, certifying entity, and capstone or end-of-program. More information on the evaluation criteria and review process is available <u>here</u>.

The names of IBCs have been updated to reflect the official names. If an IBC has the same unique identifier as in previous years, it is the same certification.

Adding a fourth digit was necessary as additional IBCs were added to the list. IBCs that were on the previous list will retain their original 3-digit identifier.

Certifying entities determine which vendors are allowed to provide certification examinations. The TEA has

Certifying entities are 3<sup>rd</sup> party organizations, often trade associations or industry-acknowledged test developers, that develop and validate certification examinations. *Vendors* provide testing platforms. One or more vendors may be approved by a certifying entity to administer their certification examination(s), in accordance with the guidelines, parameters, and requirements developed by that certifying entity.

In some instances, certifying entities develop the certification examination

