### AASHTO SOM Ballot Process: Full Standard, 4-Year Cycle

- **SOM letter ballot:**
  - new standard created
  - Published, years 1–4
- **TS eBallot:**
  - standard revisions proposed
  - Published; new count begins
- **TS voice vote or TS eBallot:**
  - standard revised
  - Published; new count begins
- **TS steward:**
  - To be revised?
  - Published, years 1–4
  - TS voice vote or TS eBallot: standard reconfirmed
  - Published; new count begins

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**Example A: Revised**

New test balloted 2015
First published 2016 as T xxx-16
Balloted for revision 2016
Published 2017 as T xxx-17

**Example B: Unchanged**

New test balloted 2015
First published 2016 as T xxx-16
Not balloted 2016–2018
Published 2017–2019 as T xxx-16

**Example C: Reconfirmed**

New test balloted 2015
First published 2016 as T xxx-16
Balloted for reconfirmation 2019
Published 2020 as T xxx-16 (2020)

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**Anatomy of a Designation Number: Full Standard**

- **Standard Type:**
  - M (specification)
  - T (test)
  - R (practice)
- **Standard Number:**
  - sequential within standard type; assigned by AASHTO
  - Pubs after ballot closed, in SOM ballot order
- **Two-Digit Year:**
  - publication year (new or revised); usually ballot year + 1
- **Four-Digit Year in Parentheses:**
  - reconfirmation publication year; usually ballot year + 1

**Example:**

- **M xxx-12 (2016)**
Anatomy of a Designation Number: Provisional Standard

Numbering is the same as full standards except that:

1) the year in parentheses may indicate either reconfirmation or extension and
2) the letter prefix is two characters long: MP (specification), TP (test), or PP (practice).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adoption after Year 2</th>
<th>Reconfirmation 1, then Adoption after Year 4</th>
<th>Reconfirmation 2, then Adoption after Year 6</th>
<th>Extension 1, then Adoption after Year 7</th>
<th>Extension 2, then Adoption after Year 8</th>
<th>Discontinue after Year 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
<td>Not balloted 2016 Published as MP xxx-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balloted for adoption as full standard 2019 Published as M xxx-20</td>
<td>Balloted for reconfirmation 2019 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
<td>Balloted for reconfirmation 2019 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
<td>Balloted for reconfirmation 2019 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
<td>Balloted for reconfirmation 2019 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
<td>Balloted for reconfirmation 2019 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not balloted 2020 Published as MP xxx-16 (2020)</td>
<td>Balloted for adoption as full standard 2021 Published as M xxx-22</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2021 Published as MP xxx-16 (2022)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2021 Published as MP xxx-16 (2022)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2021 Published as MP xxx-16 (2022)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2021 Published as MP xxx-16 (2022)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balloted for adoption as full standard 2022 Published as M xxx-23</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2022 Published as MP xxx-16 (2023)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2022 Published as MP xxx-16 (2023)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2022 Published as MP xxx-16 (2023)</td>
<td>Balloted for extension 2022 Published as MP xxx-16 (2023)</td>
<td>Balloted for discontinuation 2023 Not published</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>