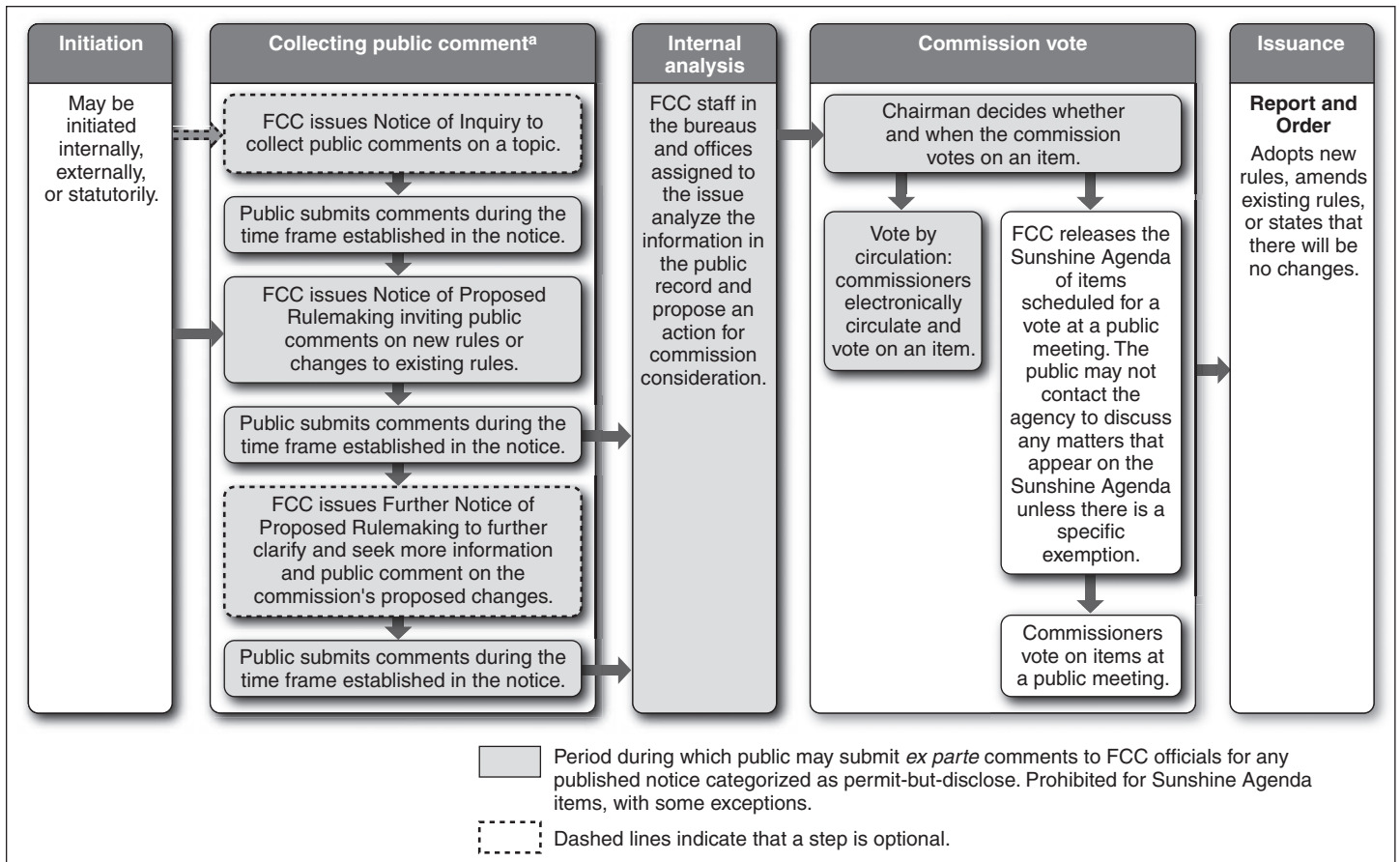


**Figure 1: FCC's Rulemaking Process**



Source: GAO analysis of FCC information.

<sup>a</sup>This graphic focuses on the process for collecting public comments for APA notice and comment rulemaking proceedings. FCC may collect public comment through other means (such as soliciting comments on a petition for rulemaking through a Public Notice during the initiation phase). A person outside of the FCC may file a Petition for Rulemaking to suggest new rules or changes to existing rules. Unless directed in the FCC's Public Notice seeking comment on the petition, the public has 30 days from the date of the Public Notice to submit comments on whether the FCC should grant or deny the petition. After reviewing the comments received in response to the petition, the FCC issues an order disposing of the petition, an NOI, or an NPRM.