

Idaho State Board of Education

GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: III. POSTSECONDARY AFFAIRS

SUBSECTION: U. Textbook and Instructional Material Affordability

October 2019

1. Definitions

- a. Open Education Resources (OER) mean high-quality teaching, learning, and research materials that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license, such as a Creative Commons license, that permits free use and repurposing by others. OER may include other resources that are legally available and free of cost to students such as full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, faculty-created content, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other free tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge.
- b. Instructional materials mean any materials for use within a course which may be available in print or digital format.

2. Minimum Standards for Textbook Affordability

- a. The institutions shall, no later than the 2021-2022 academic school year, implement an institutional plan which meets or exceeds the following minimum standards for textbook affordability:
 - i. Provide faculty and staff with professional development opportunities about the use of OER to help promote their adoption.
 - ii. Incentivize faculty to explore the adoption, adaptation, and creation of OER in their classrooms through grants, stipends, release time, or other incentive programs.
 - iii. Each institution shall adopt textbook and instructional materials, affordability policies, procedures and guidelines for implementation that further efforts to minimize the cost of textbooks and instructional material for students while maintaining the quality of education and academic freedom.
 - iv. Provide students with a list of all required textbooks or instructional materials and the estimated cost for each course at the time of enrollment. If course materials are bundled in a set, anthology, or other collection, institutions shall list each required material separately when possible.
 - v. Provide students at the time of enrollment, with information about courses that utilize OER or other instructional materials that require no cost, allowing students to choose classes based off both their academic and financial needs.
 - vi. Develop and/or adopt OER for common-indexed courses. All common-indexed courses offered at each institution shall have at least one section delivered entirely with open education resources. Where OER is not available, low cost options may be adopted. Any exceptions sought for a full academic year must have approval by the Board prior to publication of the first course schedule for that academic year.

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- vii. Provide students with an option to utilize OER for each common-indexed course delivered as dual credit. Any exceptions must be approved by the Board.
 - viii. Create and administer a standardized review and approval process for OER that ensures the materials are high-quality and accessible for students with disabilities.
4. Resource Sharing
- a. Upon implementation of an online OER repository administered by the Board, institutions shall work with the Board to ensure OER utilized for common-indexed courses will be made freely accessible to students, faculty, and citizens.
 - b. Faculty at all institutions shall be permitted to utilize OER made available through the repository.