

Open Educational Resources



Discover. Create. Succeed.

Open Educational Resources (OER)



Hello!

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What are Open Educational Resources?

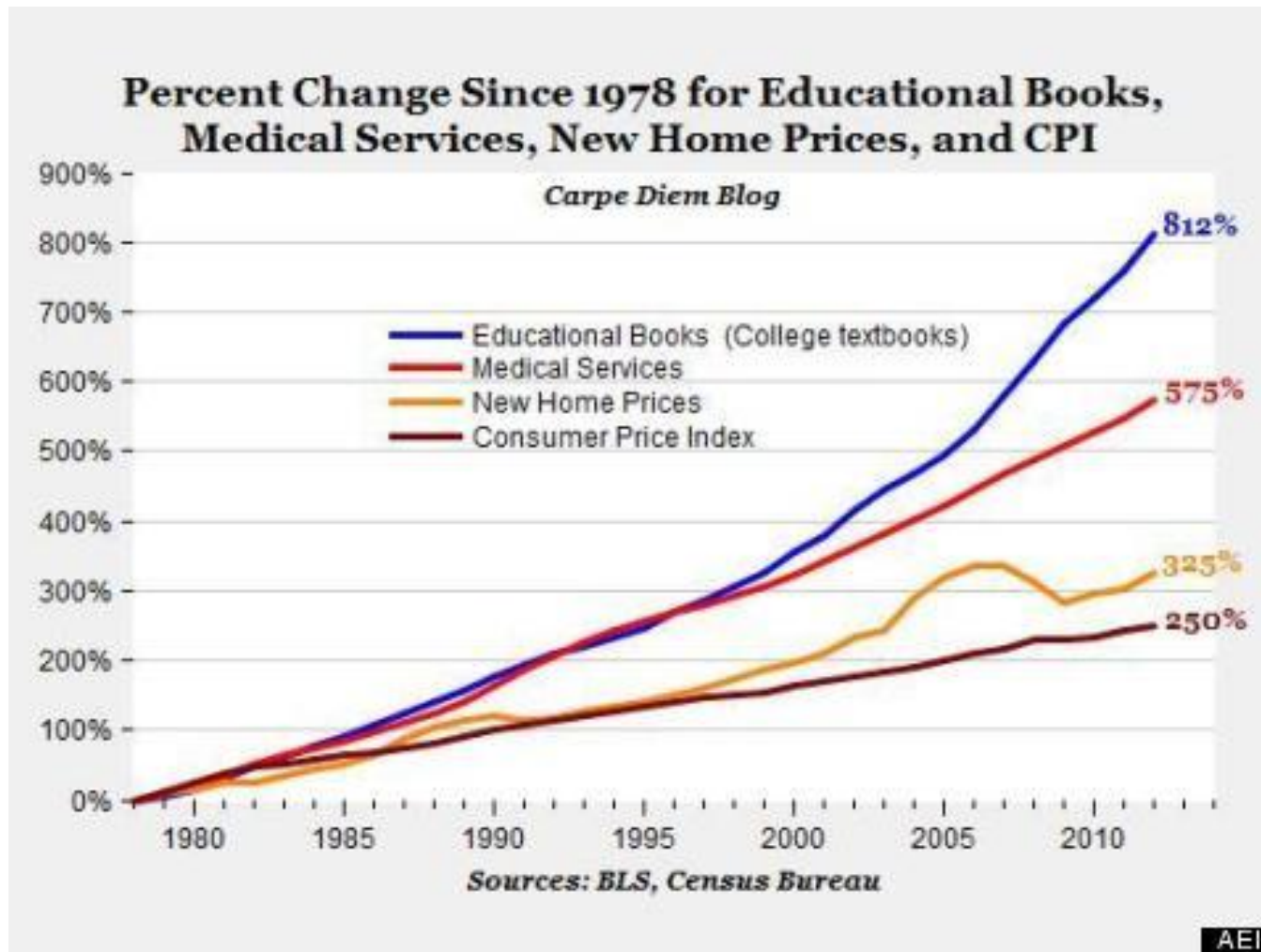
Definitions

“OER are teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others. Open educational resources include full courses, course materials, modules, textbooks, streaming videos, tests, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques used to support access to knowledge” (Lumen Learning).

The open provision of educational resources, enabled by information and communication technologies, for consultation, use and adaptation by a community of users for non-commercial purposes" (United Nations Educational & Organization, 2002*).

Creative Commons defined OERs as "teaching, learning, and research materials that are either (a) in the public domain or (b) licensed in a manner that provides everyone with free and perpetual permission to engage in the 5R activities – retaining, remixing, revising, reusing and redistributing the resources" (Creative Commons).

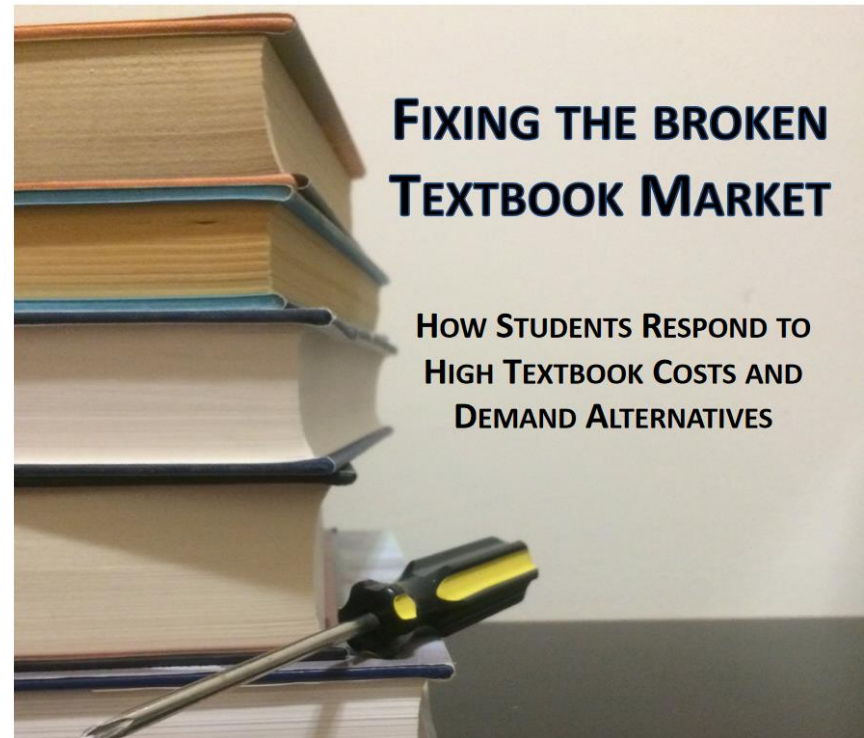
Why are Affordable and Open Educational Resources important?



US Government Accountability Office. (2013). College textbooks: Students have greater access to textbook information. *Publication No. GAO-13-368*. Retrieved from: <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-13-368>

Textbook Costs and Student Behavior

- 7 in 10 students admitted to not buying a textbook at least once due to high prices
- 94% expressed a concern that not having a textbook will negatively impact their grades
- 50% of the students said that textbook cost affect how many and which courses they take each semester



Senack, E. (2014). Fixing the broken textbook market. *US Public Interest Research Group, Student PIRG*. Retrieved from: <https://uspirg.org/reports/usp/fixing-broken-textbook-market>

The Academic Costs of Textbooks

48% take fewer courses

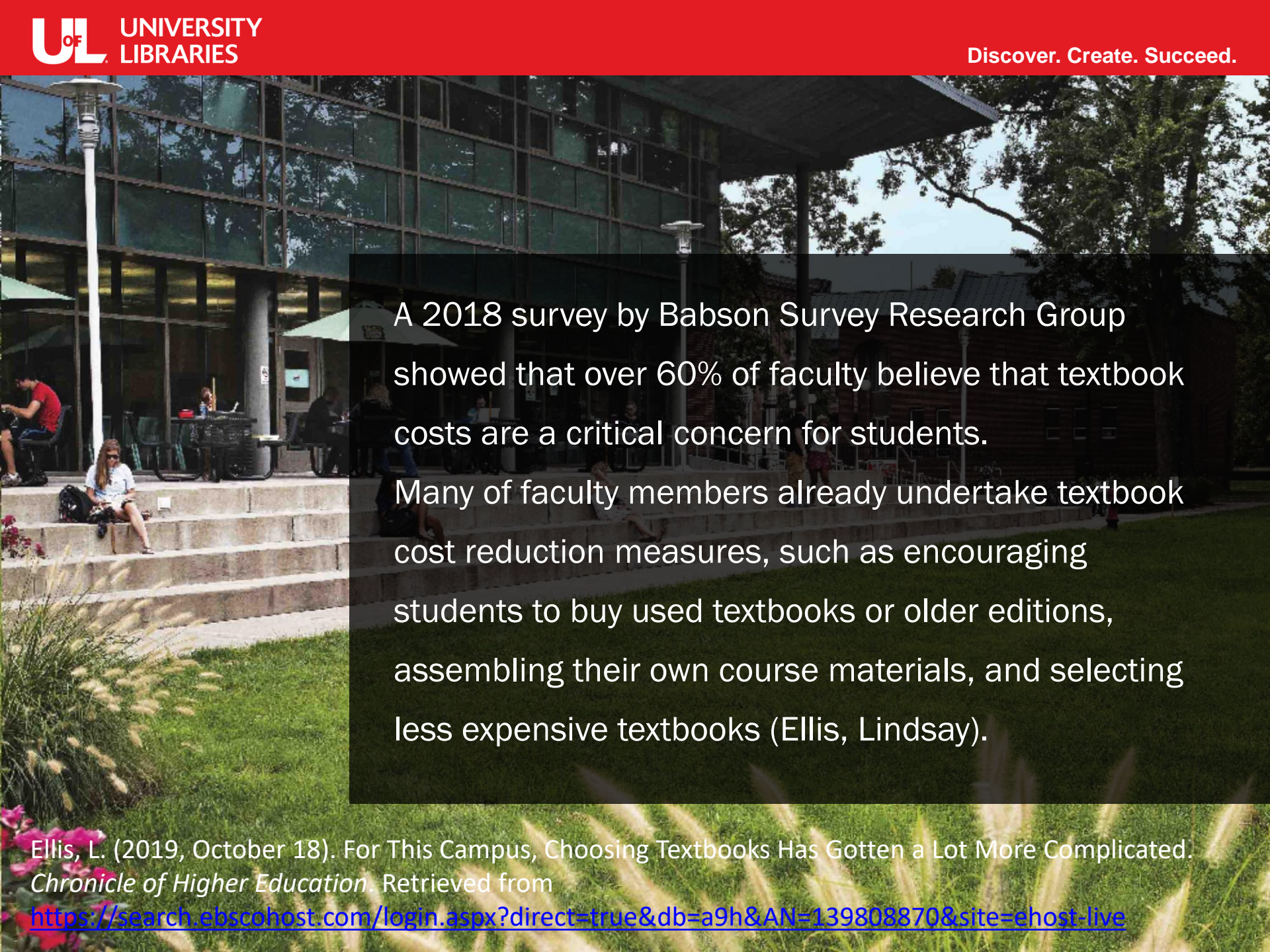
26% drop a course

21% withdraw from a course

66 % go without a textbooks

37 % earn a poor grade

Wiley, David (2017). Open Educational Resources: Implementation and Impact. Retrieved from:
<https://www.slideshare.net/opencontent/the-power-of-open-educational-resources-64590797>



A 2018 survey by Babson Survey Research Group showed that over 60% of faculty believe that textbook costs are a critical concern for students.

Many of faculty members already undertake textbook cost reduction measures, such as encouraging students to buy used textbooks or older editions, assembling their own course materials, and selecting less expensive textbooks (Ellis, Lindsay).

Ellis, L. (2019, October 18). For This Campus, Choosing Textbooks Has Gotten a Lot More Complicated. *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Retrieved from

<https://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=139808870&site=ehost-live>

What does research say?

Open Educational Resources and Open textbooks are comparable in quality, while saving students approximately \$1000 per year on textbook costs (Hilton, 2016)

Open Educational Resources decrease DFW (D, F, and Withdrawal letter grades) and improve learning performance and end of course grades (Clinton & Khan, 2019, Colvard, 2018)

Open Educational Resources and Open textbooks benefit historically underserved and financially disadvantage students the most (Colvard, 2018)

What does research say?

“Based on the random-effects model using the package “meta” ([Schwarzer, 2007](#)), the withdrawal rate for students in courses with open textbooks was lower than that of students in courses with commercial textbooks; OR (odds ratio) = 0.71, k = 11, 95% CI [0.56, 0.90], p = .005” (Clinton & Khan, 2019)

“.....The educational hardships posed by high textbook prices were even more significant, however, for historically underserved student groups—particularly in regard to stress, (first-day) access, class choice, and academic performance. Thus, the disproportionately negative effect of course material costs on historically underserved students reemphasizes textbook affordability as a redistributive social justice issue.” (Jenkins et.al, 2020)

“Further, we found that students who were first-generation or both first-generation and an ethnic minority reported engaging in more behaviors and suffering more negative outcomes, such as dropping classes or receiving poor grades, because they could not afford the book. Despite the noted limitations, this study supports the conclusion that OER can address issues of educational equity while simultaneously maintaining the quality of students' education.” (Nusbaum et. al., 2020)

“This article reports the results of a large-scale study (21,822 students) regarding the impact of course-level faculty adoption of Open Educational Resources (OER)..... OER improve end-of-course grades and decrease DFW (D, F, and Withdrawal letter grades) rates for all students. They also improve course grades at greater rates and decrease DFW rates at greater rates for Pell recipient students, part-time students, and populations historically underserved by higher education. OER address affordability, completion, attainment gap concerns, and learning. These findings contribute to a broadening perception of the value of OERs and their relevance to the great challenges facing higher education today.” (Colvard et. al., 2018)

References

Clinton, V., & Khan, S. (2019). Efficacy of open textbook adoption on learning performance and course withdrawal rates: a meta-analysis. *AERA Open*, 5(3), 2332858419872212.

Colvard, N. B., Watson, C. E., & Park, H. (2018). The Impact of Open Educational Resources on Various Student Success Metrics. *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*, 30(2), 262-276.

Jenkins, J. J., Sánchez, L. A., Schraedley, M. A. K., Hannans, J., Navick, N., & Young, J. (2020). Textbook Broke: Textbook Affordability as a Social Justice Issue. *Journal of Interactive Media in Education*, 2020(1), 1–13. <https://doi-org.echo.louisville.edu/10.5334/jime.549>

Nusbaum, A. T., Cuttler, C., & Swindell, S. (2020, January). Open educational resources as a tool for educational equity: evidence from an introductory psychology class. In *Frontiers in Education* (Vol. 4, p. 152). Frontiers.

Types of OER Programs and Initiatives

Initiatives encouraging use of existing OERs

Affordable Learning Georgia initiative (<https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/>)

Maricopa Millions project (<https://www.maricopa.edu/current-students/open-educational-resources>)

UCLS Libraries Affordable Course Materials Initiative (<https://www.library.ucla.edu/about/about-collections/open-scholarship-collections-policy/affordable-course-materials-initiative>)

OER Degree Initiatives (similar to Zero Textbook Costs Programs)

“The Open Educational Resources (OER) Degree Initiative seeks to boost college access and completion, particularly for underserved students, by engaging faculty in the redesign of courses and degree programs through the replacement of proprietary textbooks with open educational resources.” (Achieving the Dream).

Some programs are in partnership with Lumen or other organizations

<https://lumenlearning.com/about/whats-oer/> and Lumen <https://lumenlearning.com/faq-how-we-use-oer/>

Initiatives aimed at encouraging the creation/development of OER

Examples, 2012 **California's** SB1052 and SB 1053, the bills that required the provision of 50 free digital textbooks for most popular lower-division courses at public university across the state.

Rice University's **OpenStax** initiative - <https://openstax.org/about>

Open SUNY Textbooks- <https://milneopentextbooks.org/about/>

Open Michigan- <https://open.umich.edu/about/brief-history-open-michigan>

Why OERs?

EKU Alternative Textbook Grant

Example OERs Curated for EKU Faculty

Incorporate Existing Library Resources

Public Domain OERs

Submission Form

Alternative Textbook Grant Round II Application (2021-2022 Academic Year)

Deadlines

1. **August 15** - Applicants wishing to participate in the PLC during the **Fall 2021** Semester
2. **December 15** - Applicants wishing to participate in the PLC during the **Spring 2022** Semester

**Note: Please login to Google using your EKU credentials in order to access the form.*

Background Information

Thanks to EKU Board of Regents Innovation Grant Funding, the Faculty Senate Open Textbook Committee is able to award up to \$50,000 of Textbook Incentive Grants for the second cycle to be awarded during the 2021-2022 Academic Year.

Please note the eligibility requirements for this grant:

- EKU instructors, including faculty, adjunct faculty, and lecturers
- EKU instructors who will be teaching a course in the Spring or Fall of 2022 and currently require a traditional textbook for the course
- Departments or Programs at EKU considering multiple section adoption of an open educational resource (OER).

Grant Categories

There are three grant categories:

(1) Individual adoption or adaptation of existing OERs (including textbooks, free course content, and/or EKU Libraries' licensed information resources). Each approved applicant will receive a grant of \$1,000.

(2) Individual creation of new open course content in a format (PDF file, Web site, multimedia material, etc.) deemed most appropriate for pedagogical purposes. Each approved applicant will receive a grant of \$4,000.

(3) Departmental adoption or adaption of OERs across multiple sections of a course. Preference given to introductory, undergraduate supporting courses, and General Education courses with high enrollments. The department will receive \$5,000.

Requirements of Grantees

1. Professional Development

- Attend the OER Professional Learning Community (PLC) ** or **
- Participate in an OER DEEP module

2. Reports

- Brief progress report due January 2022. (For reporting back to EKU Regents)
- After course has been taught, written evaluation of the experience of identifying or creating and using alternate course materials. Provide evidence of improved student learning outcomes, if any (For example, consider giving the same exams/quizzes before and after adopting OER and look for changes? This can also be used for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.)
- Present at UP Showcase Presentation, Pedagogicon, or departmental showcase following implementation to report outcomes.

3. Access

- Grantees must agree to deposit adapted or newly created materials in the [Open Textbook collection of EKU's Encompass Digital Archive](#) under a Creative Commons [CC-BY open access license](#).

Support Provided to Grantees

1. **Training and professional development** in the form of a PLC or DEEP course developed by EKU Libraries and the Faculty Senate Open Textbook Cte.
2. **Technical support** and guidance provided by EKU Libraries
3. **Financial award** provided by EKU Regents

Affordable Textbook Initiative

About

The goal of the Affordable Textbook Initiative is to make course materials available at no or low cost to WKU students by incentivizing faculty adoption of Open Educational Resources in place of traditional textbooks. The Affordable Textbook Initiative will offer ten \$1,500 grants to faculty who replace traditional textbooks with an open-access or library licensed-alternative. This grant is generously sponsored by the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, the Kelly M. Burch Institute for Transformative Practices in Higher Education, and WKU Libraries. Grant recipients will receive support and assistance identifying textbook alternatives and updating assignments from library faculty and CITL. For more information on affordable textbook alternatives, contact a member of the [OER team](#) or visit our [research guide](#).

Apply

Rubric

Criteria		
Impact	Savings	Overall student savings is a primary goal of this initiative.
	Enrollment	Preference will be given to courses with high enrollment.
	Frequency	Preference will be given to courses that are taught every semester.
Presentation of Ideas		Applications should be thorough and clear; preference given for applications that include a plan for adopting alternative course materials.
Preference will be given to faculty who have not previously received an Affordable Textbook Initiative grant. Download complete rubric (PDF) .		



2020 Affordable Textbook Initiative

In Fall 2020, the Affordable Textbook Initiative saved 571 students an estimated **\$69,803** (based on the average cost of the previously assigned textbook).

The Affordable Textbook Initiative 2020, funded through generous support from WKU Sisterhood, awarded eight \$1,500 grants to faculty who replaced a traditional textbook with a free or low-cost alternative. WKU Libraries and CITL offered assistance to all grant recipients in identifying textbook alternatives and updating syllabi and assignments.

Alternative Textbooks (Open Educational Resources): Getting Started

Search this Guide Search

This guide provides an overview of alternative textbooks (open educational resources) and offers assistance with finding, adopting, and creating them. ©

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- [Getting Started](#)
- [Current Situation](#)
- [Find Alt Textbooks](#)
- [Find HSS Alt Textbooks](#)
- [Find STEM Alt Textbooks](#)
- [Find Other Edu Materials](#)
- [Adopt Alt Textbooks](#)
- [Create Alt Textbooks](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2021](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2020](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2019](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2018](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2017](#)
- [Alternative Textbook Grant 2016](#)

What Are Alternative Textbooks (Open Educational Resources)?

To enhance the affordability of higher education and to create a student-centered learning environment, some educators have created, adopted, or adapted peer-reviewed instructional materials that are freely available online for reuse and modification. Because of their flexibility and ready availability, such alternative textbooks are grouped under the umbrella term "**open educational resources**" (OER) or "**affordable course content**."

According to SPARC's [Open Education initiative](#), OER are "teaching, learning, and research resources that are free of cost and access barriers, and which also carry legal permission for open use." They facilitate access to knowledge and exist in different formats, including but not limited to full courses, course materials, openly licensed textbooks, learning objects, and software.

OER democratize teaching and learning with the aid of the Internet and open licensing. They lower the costs of education and conform to the [5R framework](#) that enables users to:

- **Retain:** Users have the right to make and own copies of the content;
- **Revise:** Content can be adapted or updated;
- **Remix:** The original or revised content can be combined with other content to create something new;
- **Reuse:** Content can be reused in various ways;
- **Redistribute:** Copies of the content can be shared with others in its original, revised, or remixed form.

University of Kentucky faculty members who have questions about alternative textbooks or would like to create alternative textbooks are welcome to [contact UK Libraries](#).

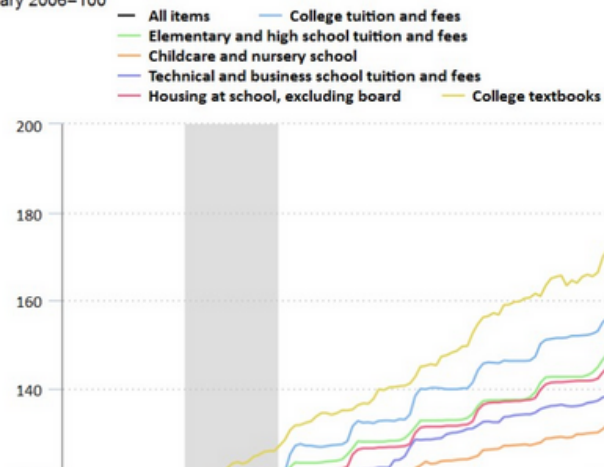
Benefits of Alternative Textbooks (Open Educational Resources)

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the costs of traditional college textbooks have skyrocketed over the years:

- **1978 to 2012: 812%**
- **Jan. 2006 to July 2016: 88%**

Consumer price indexes for tuition and school-related items, not seasonally adjusted, January 2006–July 2016

January 2006=100



What Can You Do?

Easiest Steps towards Textbook Affordability

Place a desk copy of your course textbook on library reserves

Use an older edition of the textbook when it can be done without compromising quality

Supplement an existing textbook with the library materials, OER resources or other free materials

What Can You Do?

Steps that require a bit more work

Find and adopt a high-quality ready-made OER as a primary course material

Combine small sections or chapters of existing textbooks, library-licensed materials, OERs, and other free and public domain resources to eliminate or reduce the cost of textbooks to students.

What Can You Do?

The Ultimate Step

Create an OER or revise existing OER.

An OER can be a digital object, game or module or an entire textbook.

OpenStax

OpenStax publishes free, peer-reviewed, openly-licensed textbooks.

OpenStax focuses on producing textbooks for introductory, high-enrollment, general education undergraduate courses.

Provide LMS cartridges and other supplementary materials

Learn more and explore OpenStax resources at <https://openstax.org/>

Library support and resources

Affordable Learning Resources Guide:

<https://library.louisville.edu/ekstrom/affordablelearning>

Open Educational Resources Guide:

<https://library.louisville.edu/ekstrom/oer>

What can we do?

Questions?

Thank You!

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