



pennsylvania
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Update to the Report of the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee

November 2021





333 Market Street | 1st Floor | Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

ra-stateboardofed@pa.gov | 717-787-3787

BOARD MEMBERS

Karen Farmer White, Chair

Council of Basic Education

Dr. A. Lee Williams, Chair
Hon. Carol Aichele
Mr. Nathan Barrett
Ms. Reva Gandhi
Dr. Jeffrey Keeling
Hon. Maureen Lally-Green
Rep. Mark Longietti
Sen. Scott Martin
Ms. Eva Rankin

Council of Higher Education

Dr. Jonathan Peri, Chairperson
Mr. James Agras
Dr. Jamie Bracey-Green
Ms. Sandra Dungee Glenn
Dr. Pamela J. Gunter-Smith
Ms. Sarah Jordan
Rep. Curtis Sonney
Ms. Taiba Sultana
Sen. Lindsey Williams

Chief Education Officer

Dr. Noe Ortega, Secretary of Education

Professional Standards and Practices Committee

Myron Yoder, Chairperson Pro Tempore

Board Staff

Karen Molchanow, Executive Director

Stephanie Jones, Administrative Officer

Thomas Howell, Esq.

Deputy General Counsel and Legal Counsel

College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee Members

Tanya I. Garcia, Ph.D., Committee Chairwoman
PA Department of Education | Acting Deputy Secretary and Commissioner of Postsecondary and Higher Education (November 2020 – present)

Dr. Jonathan Peri
Chairman, Council of Higher Education, PA State Board of Education

Faculty Representatives

Dr. George Sirrakos (Kutztown, PASSHE Faculty Member)
Ms. Rebecca Waltz (Penn State Faculty Member)
Dr. Fern Brody (University of Pittsburgh Faculty Member)
Dr. Robert Millette (Lincoln University Faculty Member)
Dr. Jay Sinha (Temple University Faculty Member)
Mr. Michael Dittman (Butler County Community College Faculty Member)
Ms. Cherie L. Crosby (Manor College Faculty Member)

Student Representatives

Ms. Mailinh Dang (University of Pittsburgh)
Ms. Taiba Sultana (Northampton Community College)

Legislative Representatives

Ms. Megan Winters (Representing Senator Lindsey Williams)
Ms. Cindy Urban (Representing Senator Scott Martin)
Ms. Christine Seitz (Representing Representative Curtis Sonney)
Ms. Alycia M. Laureti (Representing Representative Mark Longietti)

Bookstore/Publisher Representatives

Ms. Elizabeth Morris (Bryn Mawr, Campus College Bookstore representative)
Ms. Cathy Pacheco (Barnes & Noble, Penn State University Online College Bookstore representative)
Mr. Jesse Gutierrez (McGraw Hill)
Mr. Jeff Goldman (Pearson)

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	5
Part I.....	6
Act 104 of 2010	6
Advisory Committee Processes	7
Advisory Committee Legislative Directives	8
Part II	9
National Trends.....	9
Pennsylvania Landscape.....	15
APPENDIX A: Committee Meeting Agendas from 2018 – present.....	19

Executive Summary

In 2010, Pennsylvania adopted the College Textbook Affordability, Accountability and Accessibility Act, Article XX-F of Act 104. This legislation requires institutions of higher education to coordinate efforts with bookstores, faculty members, and textbook publishers to lower the cost of college textbooks.

Specifically, the Textbook Affordability Act:

- Requires textbook publishers to provide information for faculty members on how other editions differ;
- Asks faculty members to consider the least costly textbook option for their students;
- Requires book publishers to take steps to make textbooks available in digital form by 2020;
- Encourages universities to operate textbook-rental programs, and;
- Make to the maximum extent practicable required and recommended college textbook and supplemental material listings widely available to students during registration.

The work done to date in Pennsylvania, and in national trends, shows this work is being completed and students are benefiting from lower costs and buying options, varied modalities (eBooks v. print), and through open education resources (OER).

As outlined in Part II, Article XX-F of Act 104 established the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee as a Standing Committee of the State Board of Education. This committee was charged with producing an initial report for the Governor, the State Board of Education, and House and Senate Education Committees in 2012, and is required to update its report every three years thereafter.

This update will report on the activity in which the committee has participated over the past three years, and will highlight both national and state trends, policies, and practices for improving textbook costs. Nationally, new print and packaged textbook prices increase by 12 percent with each new edition; prices for used textbooks, eBooks, rental programs, inclusive access materials have increased; and there has been an expansion of inclusive access and open education resources (OER).¹ However, recent reports indicate a significant decrease in prices and the average annual spending on required course materials. The higher education community, publishers, and bookstores appear to be making progress in addressing high costs through a variety of innovations and strategies.

A sustained focus on improving textbook costs remains critical in Pennsylvania. In 2018, the State Board of Education formally adopted a postsecondary attainment goal for the commonwealth to have 60 percent of the population ages 25-64 hold a postsecondary degree or industry-recognized credential by 2025, with a particular focus on closing attainment gaps for historically underrepresented populations. Meeting this goal and ensuring that Pennsylvanians have equitable access to a postsecondary education necessitates the identification and examination of *all* costs that may prevent a student from successfully attaining a postsecondary degree or industry-recognized credential.

This *Update to the Report of the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee* is divided into two major parts. Part I provides background information on the legislation and processes that have guided the efforts of the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee over the past several years. Part II details the updated trends, policies, and practices that the Advisory Committee has identified and examined since the publication of the 2018 report.

¹ (2021). Average Cost of College Textbooks from EducationData.org retrieved from <https://educationdata.org/average-cost-of-college-textbooks> on 8/4/2021

Part I

Act 104 of 2010

Article XX-F of the Public School Code, the College Textbook Affordability, Accountability, and Accessibility Act, provides a roadmap for reducing the cost of textbooks. The legislation provides direction to publishers, faculty members, academic departments, and institutions of higher education to provide students with the most affordable options for course materials. Specifically, the legislation calls for representatives of stakeholder groups to examine state, national, and international policies and practices related to textbook affordability and subsequently provide recommendations on these policies and practices to reduce textbook costs.

Publishers are to provide faculty members or departments with copyright dates for the three previous editions of a textbook as well as the information that identifies content revisions between the editions, the availability of course materials in other formats, and the price to the campus bookstore at which course materials are made available. In addition, the legislation requires publishers to make bundle materials (textbooks and supplemental materials) available separately in most cases, so faculty can choose the exact materials they prefer for their classes. If the decision is made to use a custom textbook, the publisher is to provide the price of the custom textbook. Finally, by no later than January 1, 2020, individuals, firms, partnerships, or corporate publishers were to the extent practicable make their textbooks available for sale in electronic format when commercially reasonable.

Faculty members and academic departments should consider the following to accomplish the goals of Article XX-F:

- Use the least costly practice in assigning textbooks.
- Use course materials for a longer period of time when academically feasible.
- Work with bookstores to review timelines and processes involved in ordering and stocking course materials.
- Disclose textbook costs to students.
- Promote book buyback programs.
- Provide a statement detailing the required/recommended course materials and whether an earlier edition is suitable.
- Encourage participation in college textbook rental and inclusive-access programs, if one is available.

Institutions of higher education are required to provide all students with a list of all required/recommended course materials. This would include the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) for textbooks and supplemental materials for each course to be offered during the upcoming year. If the ISBN is not available, institutions should provide the author, title, edition, publisher, and copyright date for the textbook or supplemental material. This same information should be made available to on-campus and off-campus bookstores along with course enrollment information.

Institutions are encouraged to provide students with information on guaranteed buyback programs (programs that predetermine the buyback price of a textbook and require the faculty member to use the textbook for multiple years), college textbook rental programs, used textbook purchase programs, college textbook buyback programs, and alternative content delivery programs. This also would include digital textbooks, other strategies for acquiring textbooks and supplemental materials, and on-campus and off-campus bookstore information. Institutions are encouraged to explore implementation of college textbook rental and inclusive-access programs if one is not already available.

Advisory Committee Processes

Article XX-F of the Public School Code establishes the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee as a standing committee of the State Board of Education. The Advisory Committee must meet quarterly and is charged with examining national and international efforts related to college textbook affordability and accessibility. The product of this group's work is this report, which provides a survey of state and national trends in textbook affordability, best and emergent practices, and recommendations to improve textbook affordability. The Advisory Committee's initial report was published in May 2012 and was updated in 2015 and 2018. The Advisory Committee is now issuing the statutorily required update to that report, which is due every three years.

The composition of the 23-member Advisory Committee is defined in statute to include college students, faculty members, textbook publishers, textbook retailers, and members of the General Assembly. In addition, Act 104 identified the Chairperson of the State Board of Education's Council of Higher Education as an Advisory Committee member and designated the Deputy Secretary for Postsecondary and Higher Education as Advisory Committee Chair.

Since the previous report in 2018, the committee has met 13 times, both in person, via phone, and via video conference. Agendas are attached in Appendix A. Some meetings were very brief, and no formal agenda was distributed.

A subcommittee was formed in the spring of 2021, charged with drafting sections of this updated report. The subcommittee consisted of five members representing community colleges, Pennsylvania Department of Education staff, State Board of Education staff, and a book publisher. Each member was responsible for collecting and synthesizing research to draft a section of this 2021 update. The full draft was then sent to the Advisory Committee for review and approval.

Advisory Committee Legislative Directives

The Advisory Committee was commissioned with examining state and national efforts related to college textbook affordability and accessibility, and to produce a report for the Governor, State Board of Education, and House and Senate Education Committees. Six legislative directives guide the efforts and recommendations of the Committee:

- Ensure students have access to affordable course materials by decreasing costs to students and enhancing transparency and disclosure.
- Identify ways to decrease the cost of college textbooks and supplemental materials while supporting the academic freedom of faculty members.
- Encourage college textbook publishers and distributors to work with faculty to promote understanding of the cost to students when purchasing faculty-selected college textbooks.
- Encourage innovation in the development and use of course materials, including open-source college textbooks and other open-source educational resources.
- Ensure that faculty members are informed of accurate and relevant pricing information for course materials, and that students are protected as a consumer group.
- Make recommendations to the General Assembly and the State Board of Education on how to strengthen existing state laws and regulations and to propose any additional and necessary state laws and regulations.

These directives have been addressed through the years as additional technology develops and resources expand.

Part II

National Trends

Since the last report was published in 2018, there has been broader adoption of electronic book resources, open education resources (OER), and inclusive-access models in addition to traditional textbook purchases.² COVID-19 also changed the textbook landscape in 2020-21 as spending increased from fall 2020 to spring 2021 but were down overall from past spending.³ Encouragingly, there was a 15-percent decline in students skipping acquiring course material units last year. According to a survey by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, a lack of reliable internet correlates with significant issues for course material access and student success.⁴ Additionally, students that reported losing jobs and missing meals during the pandemic also reported skipping the purchasing of course materials.

As of 2020-21, average annual spending on required course material was \$456.00, a 35-percent drop from 2001-08 when students reported spending an average of \$701.00 (see Figure 1). As mentioned, it should be noted that spending for course materials have risen in spring 2021, but this could be because students reported taking more classes in the spring after programming may have been interrupted by COVID-19 for fall 2020 and more students were in-person for spring 2021.

Figure 1: Annual Spending on Required Course Materials



Figure 1: from National Association of College Stores Student Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials

² Faculty Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials, 2020. National Association of College Stores, p. 4

³ Student Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials, 2021. National Association of College Stores, p. 7

⁴ Source: Fixing the Broken Textbook Market. U.S. Public Interest Research Group, 2021.

The amount that students spend on course material remains influenced, in part, by academic major and discipline. Students majoring in the health, business, engineering, or law professions currently pay the most for required course material (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Spending on Required Course Materials by Major, 2021



Figure 2: from National Association of College Stores

Students have several options for acquiring course material, including purchasing, renting, borrowing, and downloading. OER acquisition has increased 7 percent since the pandemic began – the most significant increase of all materials.⁵

Figure 3: Course Material Acquisition

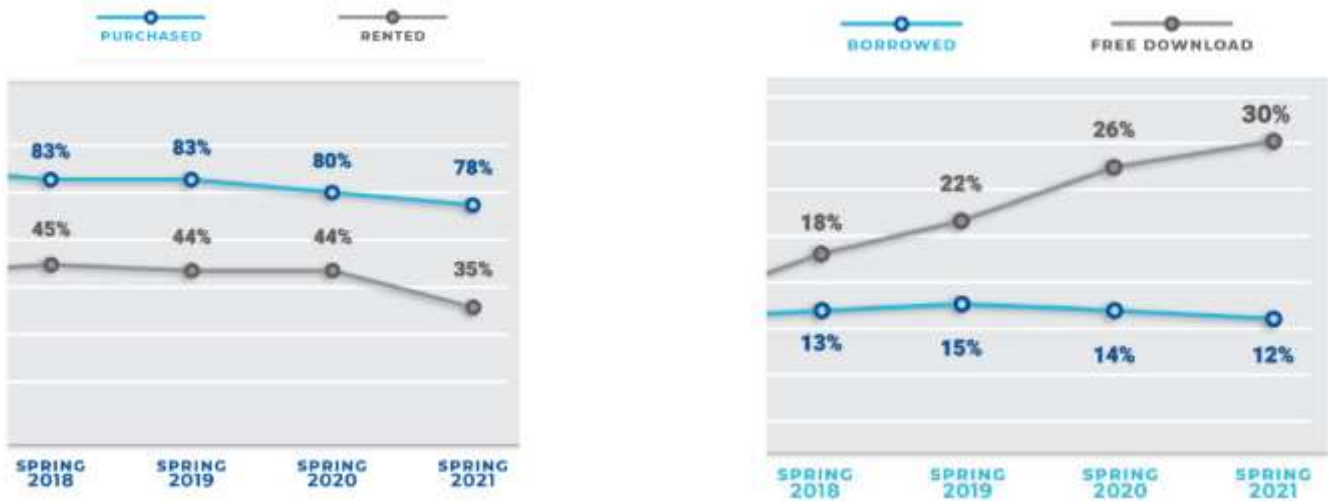


Figure 3: from National Association of College Stores

Figure 4: Frequency of Obtaining through a Free Method, 2021

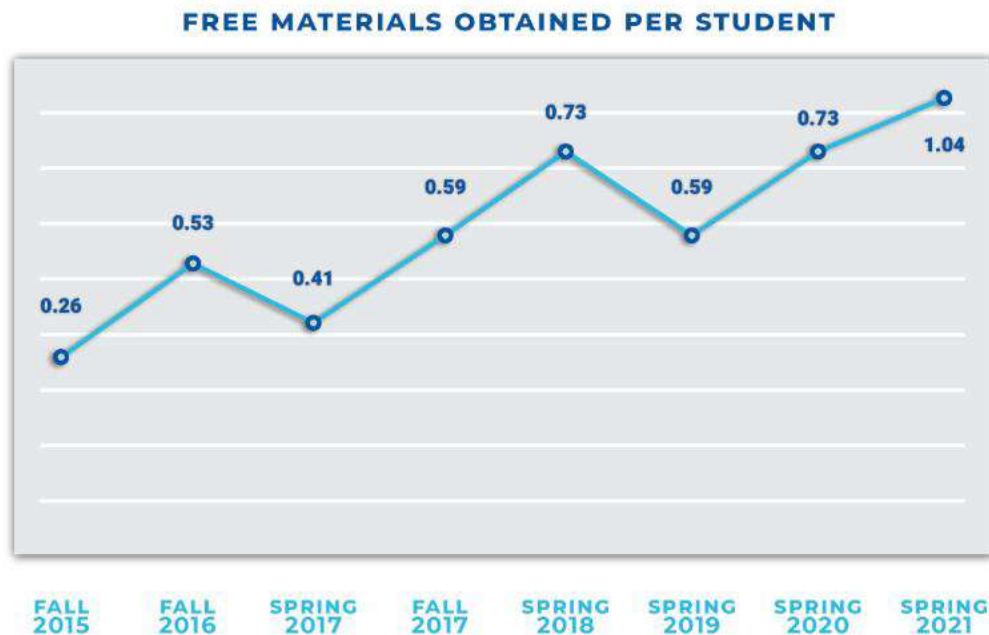


Figure 4: from National Association of College Stores

⁵ Kim, Joshua. (2021). 11 Takeaways From the 2021 CHLOE Report. Inside Higher Education. Retrieved from <https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/learning-innovation/11-takeaways-2021-chloe-report>

Increased transparency in purchasing options have been found to benefit students. Today, students can use “price comparison” tools to help them identify the most affordable option for acquiring course material. Currently, online campus stores, physical campus stores, and Amazon remain the three main sources for purchasing or renting course materials.⁶ For the spring 2021 term, 55 percent of students purchased from their campus store (online or in-store) and 20 percent purchased from Amazon (NACS, 2021).

While content quality remains the most important consideration to the majority of faculty when selecting required course material, there appears to be an increasing sensitivity to cost.

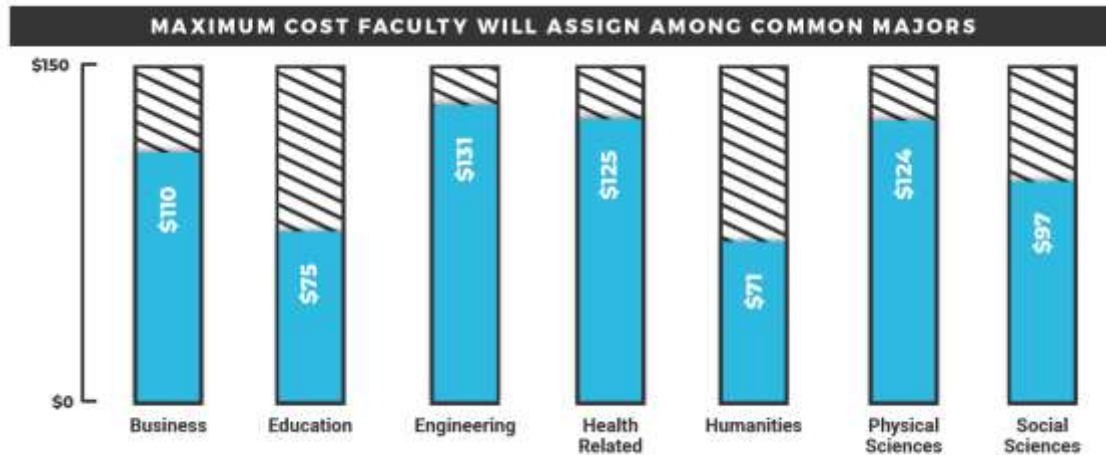


Figure 5: from National Association of College Stores

Of the 83 percent of faculty who select their own course materials, 66 percent of those know how much the materials cost for all of their courses and 22 percent know some of the cost of their assigned materials.⁷ Although spending on course material appears to be decreasing, the need for continued attention and innovation remains critical. NACS reported that while students are in fact spending less on course materials, there also has been a decrease in the number of students *acquiring all* required material, which is primarily driven by the perceived degree of use of materials being assigned, an issue Act 104 specifically addresses by requiring faculty to consider how course materials will be used before materials are assigned.

⁶ Student Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials, 2021. National Association of College Stores, p 22

⁷ Faculty Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials, 2020. National Association of College Stores, p. 3

Figure 6: Faculty Role in Selecting Course Material

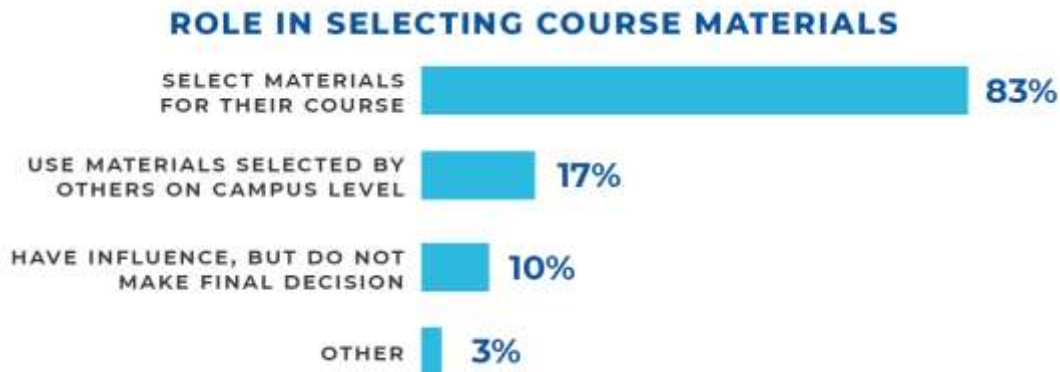


Figure 6: from National Association of College Stores

Three out of every four students acquired all their course materials.⁸ Price continues to be the number one reason why students don't purchase all their course materials. Additional reasons include listening to other students who say the materials aren't needed or professors who say the materials aren't required.

Federal and state governments have and continue to introduce policy that aims to address the high costs of course material. At the state level, most recent legislative activity has been related to the advancement and promotion of open educational resources (OER) and inclusive-access models.

OERs have been defined as “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.”⁹ OER may be in the public domain or employ a license such as those from Creative Commons, which enables faculty members to modify text as long as the original copyright holder is cited correctly. OERs are available for free, permanent download. Reduced-price print copies often can be ordered as well.

Campus Negotiated Discount Programs (CNDPs), such as inclusive-access models, is a course materials cost-savings approach that is proving increasingly popular at institutions of higher education across Pennsylvania. The program allows institutions and campus bookstores to negotiate lower cost course materials below competitive market rates and often with better terms of use for students.

Students who participate in inclusive-access programs receive access to required course materials on or before the first day of class allowing all students to start classes with all of their required course materials. Students who decide to drop a class prior to the institution's add/drop period are not charged for the course materials. Students can use federal Title IV funds to pay for inclusive-access course materials while maintaining the right to opt-out of inclusive-access programs so they can acquire the required course materials on their own.

⁸ Student Watch™ Attitudes and Behaviors toward Course Materials, 2021. National Association of College Stores, p 33

⁹ <https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-oercommunitycourse-understandingoer/chapter/defining-oer/>

Pennsylvania institutions of higher education are establishing inclusive-access programs at an increasing rate to attain the academic, logistical, and financial benefits the program brings to students. Inclusive-access programs help students better face the challenges of maneuvering the financial aid system, as well as help them realize the tangible return on investment that purchasing required course materials can bring to their course work and eventually to their college and career plans.

One out of every three students have participated in an inclusive-access program for at least one class during the 2020-21 academic year. That number has more than doubled since 2019 (NACS, 2021).

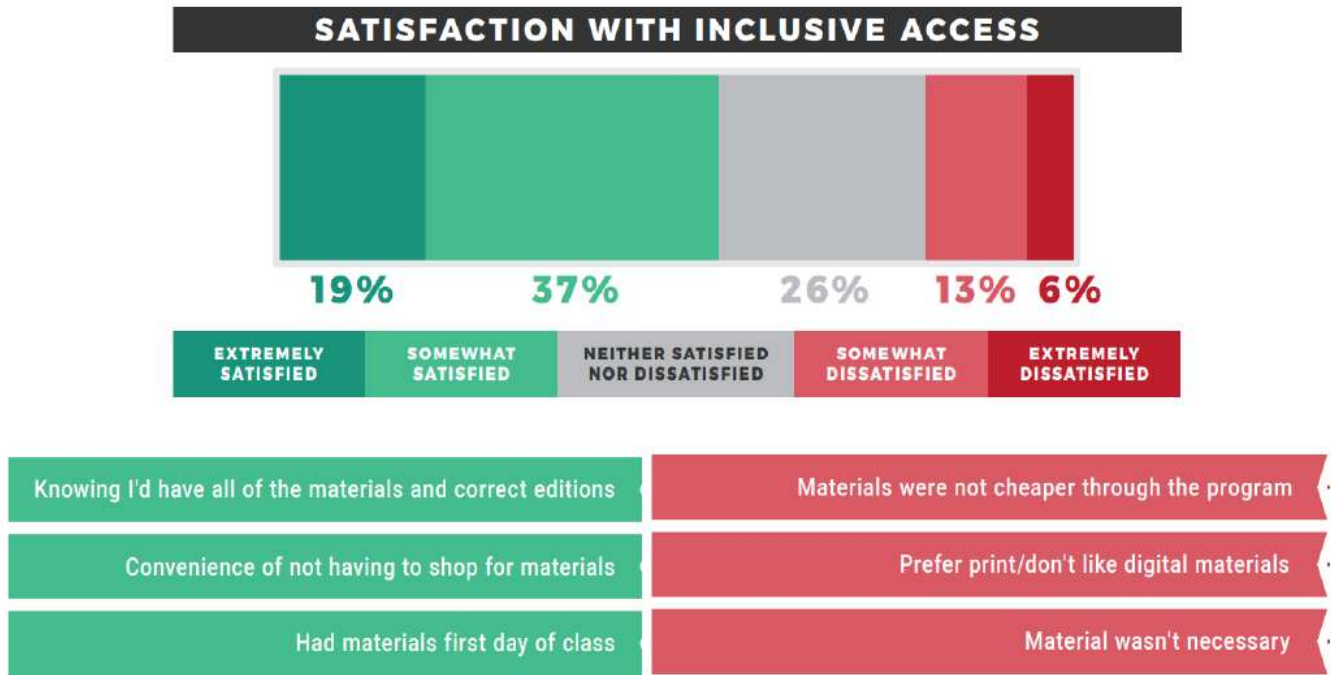


Figure 7: from National Association of College Stores

At the state level, there have also been several legislative proposals designed to increase financial aid for acquiring course materials, subsidizing OER programs, and modifying tax laws (e.g., textbook tax exemptions; income tax credits for textbook purchases).

At the federal level, the American Opportunity Tax Credit was created in 2009 and made permanent in 2016 allowing taxpayers to claim for a student up to a \$2,500 tax credit for students to use toward course material expenses as well as tuition and fees for their first four years of college. Congress is considering expanding the tax credit to better align with the Pell Grant program allowing lower income students and families to claim the maximum credit.

Pennsylvania Landscape

In 2018, the State Board of Education formally adopted a statewide attainment goal for the commonwealth to have 60 percent of the population ages 25-64 hold a postsecondary degree or industry recognized credential by 2025, with a particular focus on closing attainment gaps for historically underrepresented populations. Achieving this goal requires a comprehensive strategy for addressing barriers and reducing costs associated with postsecondary education. Textbook costs must not be overlooked as a potential barrier for accessing and completing a postsecondary education in Pennsylvania. The State Board of Education's Council on Higher Education is in the process of updating the Master Plan for Higher Education. The Master Plan will include information and strategies for college affordability, of which textbooks and material costs are a key component.

Pennsylvania is home to almost 250 colleges and universities, including 14 state-owned; 15 community colleges; 4 state-related universities; 2 state-owned (other), 8 private state-aided universities, 89 private colleges and universities, 3 private two-year colleges, and 13 theological seminaries.¹⁰ Of those, 18 are nationally ranked universities, and 23 are nationally ranked liberal arts colleges.¹¹ Despite being home to such prestigious institutions, the cost of attendance and completion can be both steep and prohibitive. In the 2019-20 school year, average tuition and fees was \$3,800 at public two-year institutions; \$9,400 at public four-year institutions (in state); and \$36,700 at private four-year institutions.¹² Currently, Pennsylvania ranks second highest among states for undergraduate student debt.¹³

Summary of Previous Recommendations

Based on a survey of Pennsylvania institutions of higher education conducted by the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee in 2018, the committee included policy recommendations in its last updated report. The following provides a summary of the recommendations developed to educate and inform faculty, students, state officials, and institutions of higher education on initiatives linked to textbook affordability.

1. The Advisory Committee recommends that faculty members and departments adopt course materials early and consider the use of past editions, open-source materials, and electronic formats as an option to reduce expense when this is academically suitable.
2. Publishers are encouraged to provide faculty members and administrators with a list of their company's bestselling texts in their field and include pricing and cost information for administrators as well as faculty.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Education should develop a resource that provides faculty members with best practices in the selection of course materials.
4. The Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency is encouraged to develop guidelines on textbook-purchasing literacy for students.
5. Institutions should consider including an evaluation of required texts/course materials with student course evaluations.
6. The committee encourages institutions to participate in a textbook rental program.
7. The committee should consider producing a report addendum providing examples of strategies that some campuses have adopted to comply with the textbook provisions in the federal Higher Education Opportunity Act and XX-F of Act 104.

¹⁰ Pennsylvania Department of Education, 2018, *Postsecondary and Adult Education*, Retrieved from <https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/Pages/Types-of-Schools.aspx> on 8/7/2018

¹¹ US News & World Report, *Best Colleges in Pennsylvania*, Retrieved from <https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/pa?schoolType=national-universities> on 8/9/2021

¹² National Center for Educational Statistics, Retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/cua>

¹³ The Institute for College Access and Success, *The Project on Student Debt*, Retrieved from <https://ticas.org/our-work/student-debt/> on 8/4/2021

To the knowledge of this committee, some of these recommendations have happened organically through time as technological advances or as models in the industry have become more innovative – such as the inclusive-access model. It has been noted in the prior College Textbook Affordability Report that PHEAA’s Higher Education Access Partners work throughout the state to educate students and parents on the costs of college, including the cost of textbooks and supplies that are not usually a direct cost from the institution but rather additional costs that they may have to pay out-of-pocket. Most institutions do have a textbook rental program in their bookstore – as do some of the online textbook providers such as Amazon. This report will include some Best and Emergent Practices showing where campuses have tried to improve the college textbook affordability component for their students.

The Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL) has entered the textbook affordability discussion through its support of Open Educational Resources (OER). OCL has partnered with the Partnership for Academic Library Collaboration and Innovation (PALCI) since 2018 through the Affordable Learning PA (ALPA) project. ALPA is an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant-funded project and is administered by PALCI and coordinated by a Steering Committee including representatives from Temple University, Penn State University, Kutztown University, Bucknell University, Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, OCL, and PALCI staff.

The long-term goal of ALPA is to support a robust OER community among higher education institutions in Pennsylvania for the active creation and use of open textbooks and related educational resources. ALPA has sponsored numerous OER and affordable learning workshops and has hosted the Affordable Learning Summit for the last three years. The Affordable Learning Summit is an annual gathering that allows librarians, faculty, and other partners in higher education to collaborate on building a network dedicated to making higher education more accessible and affordable.

Pennsylvania Grants for Open and Affordable Learning (PA GOAL) is funded by the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) established by the CARES Act of 2020 and is managed by PALCI. PA GOAL provides mini-grants and stipends to encourage and support faculty in creating, adapting, and adopting Open Educational Resources and other zero-cost learning materials for students in institutions of postsecondary and higher education across the commonwealth. PA Goal funding will expire in September 2022¹⁴.

Recommendations of this Report

Due to the lack of visibility of the committee and this report, we recommend the State Board take action to publicize the recommendations in a way that hasn’t previously been done. For example, the State Board could have a hearing on textbook affordability, and the Council of Higher Education could include textbook affordability as a part of the college affordability conversation in the Master Plan for Higher Education, slated to be adopted by the State Board of Education next summer.

¹⁴ <https://www.media.pa.gov/pages/education-details.aspx?newsid=1213>

Best and Emergent Practices

Edinboro University – Inclusive Access Program

This began as a pilot program in the fall 2018 with seven courses in which 190 units were distributed to Edinboro University students. Fall 2021 saw us distribute 3,604 units. Based on comparable digital list prices for the materials that were included in the program, students saved approximately \$78,663 – or \$22 per license. More information can be found here: <http://edinborobookstore.com/StoreFiles/27-SchoolFiles/27-INCLUSIVE%20ACCESS.pdf>

Harrisburg Area Community College – Open Education Resources

HACC utilizes OER resources and publishes information through its library for its campus community at [OER - Open Educational Resources \(OER\) - LibGuides at Harrisburg Area Community College \(hacc.edu\)](#)

Swarthmore College – Textbook Affordability Program (TAP)

This program provides every student with a \$700 credit that can be used in the campus bookstore to purchase course materials. More information can be found here: [https://store.swarthmore.edu/TAP Information for Students](https://store.swarthmore.edu/TAP%20Information%20for%20Students) and [https://store.swarthmore.edu/TAP Information for Faculty](https://store.swarthmore.edu/TAP%20Information%20for%20Faculty)

Temple University – Textbook Affordability Task Force

Temple has organized a task force charged with developing strategies and creating awareness among faculty about textbook affordability challenges students face and how they can seek out more affordable or even \$0 cost instructional materials. More information can be found here: [Textbook Task Force takes on the high costs of learning materials | Temple Now](#)

West Chester University of Pennsylvania – Inclusive Access Program

West Chester University has a program in which faculty can order textbooks and course materials for students in bulk for a discounted price from the bookstore. If faculty choose to do that then the students are charged an inclusive book access fee for that particular course/textbook. Students have the option to decline the inclusive book access fee if they can find the book cheaper on their own. West Chester University includes these as required charges as they are more of an opt-out than an opt-in for books. More information can be found here: <https://www.wcupa.edu/infoServices/d2IServices/d2IFacultyStaffHelp/inclusiveAccess.aspx>

Textbook Affordability in the News

The following are additional resources that may be of interest as institutions strive to make college textbooks more affordable for their students.

<https://gettysburgian.com/2021/03/gettysburgian-investigation-finds-discrepancies-in-textbook-prices-across-departments/>

<https://educationdata.org/average-cost-of-college-textbooks>

<https://philonedtech.com/fall-2020-updates-what-do-college-students-actually-spend-on-course-materials/>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/article/2021/03/18/pandemic-didnt-speed-adoption-open-educational-resources-outlook>

<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/article/2021/03/18/pandemic-didnt-speed-adoption-open-educational-resources-outlook>

https://studentpirgs.org/assets/uploads/2020/06/Fixing-the-Broken-Textbook-Market_June-2020_v2.pdf

<https://uspirgedfund.org/reports/usp/fixing-broken-textbook-market-third-edition>

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/covid-19-severely-impacts-back-to-school-textbook-industry-reports-campusbookscom-301103165.html>

<https://www.infodocket.com/2020/11/05/college-textbook-course-material-costs-aap-releases-preview-version-of-student-monitors-fall-2020-report/>

APPENDIX A: Committee Meeting Agendas 2018 – present

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda Thursday, August 23, 2018 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Heritage A, Lobby Level
333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA

Zoom Room: <https://pau.zoom.us/j/231529893>
Audio: Dial 646-558-8656, Enter Meeting ID# 231 529 893

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. Review draft of *2018 Update to the Report of the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee*
 - a. Review steps and timeline for completion.
 - b. Review report content
 - c. Review committee feedback and proposed edits
- III. Next Steps
- IV. Public Comment
- V. **Action Items**
 - a. Vote to approve the *2018 Update to the Report of the College Textbook Policies Advisory Committee*
- VI. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

3:00 – 4:00 PM

State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Fl
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Dial: 717-612-4733; (Toll-free) 1-855-750-1027,
Enter PIN/Meeting ID: 463626

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. Updates
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Action Items
 - a. N/A
- V. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 1, 2019
2:00 – 3:00 PM

State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Fl
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Dial: 646-558-8656

Enter PIN/Meeting ID: 5799821728 then press #.

You will be prompted again for the Meeting ID, just press #.

I. Welcome and Roll Call

II. Updates

Survey the Landscape to inquire about what already captured.

- State Associations and other professional groups
- Institutions (or specific departments)

III. Public Comment

IV. Action Items

a. N/A

V. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda
Thursday, April 25, 2019
2:00 – 3:00 PM
State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID 8602490#

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. New Business
 - Affordable Learning Initiative
 - a. Information forwarded by State Library Staff (Susan Banks)
 - b. Q & A
- III. Updates
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Action Items
 - a. N/A
- VI. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Thursday, July 25, 2019

3:00 – 4:00 PM

State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID 97418696#

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. New Business
- III. Updates
 - Sarah Green, Director, Bureau of State Libraries
 - Richard Hershman, Vice President of Government Relations, National Association of College Stores
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Action Items
 - a. N/A
- VI. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

1:00 – 2:00 PM

State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID: 534007212#

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. New Business
- III. Updates
 Update on OER Summit—August 9, 2019
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Action Items
- VI. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Friday, January 31, 2020
2:00 – 3:00 PM

State Board Office
333 Market St, 1st Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID 473636645#

I. Welcome and Roll Call

II. New Business

- Higher Education Funding Commission
- Impact of Textbook Affordability Programs

III. Updates

- College Affordability Act (H.R.4674)
<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr4674/BILLS-116hr4674ih.pdf>
- Inclusive access lawsuit

IV. Public Comment

V. Action Items

VI. Upcoming Meeting Dates: April 24 @ 11:00 a.m.
July 31 @ 11:00 a.m.
October 30 @ 11:00 a.m.

VII. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK POLICIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Friday, April 24, 2020

11:00 AM – 12 Noon

VIRTUAL MEETING

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID: 517121456#

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. New Business
 - New report—Inflection Point: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2019
<https://www.onlinelearningsurvey.com/reports/2019inflectionpoint.pdf>
- III. Updates
 - COVID 19
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Action Items
- VI. Upcoming Meeting Dates: July 31 @ 11:00 a.m..
October 30 @ 11:00 a.m.
- VII. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda
Friday, July 31, 2020
11:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

Virtual / Skype

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID 928680191#

- I. Roll Call
- II. Welcome – *Deputy Secretary Noe Ortega*
- III. New Business
 - Textbook Affordability Report – *Dr. Kimberly McCurdy*
 - Seeking volunteers for the writing and planning team
 - Volunteers will meet before the next quarterly meeting to develop timeline and make determinations about content
- IV. Updates –*Mike Dotts*
 - US PRIG--follow up on 2014 survey "[Fixing the Broken Textbook Market](#)"
 - National Association of College Stores: Textbook Affordability Conference (<https://tac.nacs.org/>)
 - **Cross-Campus Affordability Task Force Efforts**
(Guest Speaker: Dr. Sean Hendricks)
 - **Student Advocacy & the Impact on Your Campus**
(Guest Speaker: Rachel Fleischer)
 - **Faculty Perspectives on Affordability Initiatives**
(Guest Speaker: Dr. Thao Ha)
 - COVID-19 – *Deputy Secretary Noe Ortega*
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Action Items
- VII. Upcoming Meeting Dates: October 30 @ 11:00 a.m.
- VIII. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

Friday, October 30, 2020
11:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

Virtual / Skype

Number: 1 (267) 332-8737
Conference ID 590036941#

- I. Roll Call
- II. Welcome – *Acting Deputy Secretary, Patricia Landis*
- III. New Business
 - Announcement of new Deputy Secretary for Postsecondary and Higher Education
 - Textbook Affordability Report – *Dr. Kimberly McCurdy*
 - Update on status and timeline for report
- IV. Updates –
 - COVID-19 – *Patricia Landis*
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Action Items
- VII. Upcoming Meeting Dates:
 - January 28, 2021 at 11 am
 - April 29, 2021 at 11 am
 - July 29, 2021 at 11 am
 - October 28, 2021 at 11 am
- VIII. Adjournment

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 27, 2021
11:00 am to 12:00 pm

MICROSOFT TEAMS INFO

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

267.332.8737

Phone Conference ID: 557 936 876#

Agenda

11:00 am Roll Call

11:05 am Welcome

Acting Deputy Secretary, Dr. Tanya I. Garcia

11:10 am New Business

Office of Commonwealth Libraries Affordability and Equity in Higher Education Mini-Grants to Support Open Educational Resources (OER)

Mike Dotts

Textbook Affordability Report Deadlines and Next Steps

Dr. Kimberly McCurdy

11:20 am Updates

Best Practices and Innovative Use of Federal Relief Funds for Instructional Materials
Advisory Committee Members

11:30 am Public Comment

11:35 am Action Items

Topics to Be Considered for Future Meetings

Advisory Committee Members

11:55 am 2021 Future Meeting Dates

April 28, 2021

July 28, 2021

October 27, 2021

12:00 pm Adjourn

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
11:00 am to 12:00 pm

MICROSOFT TEAMS INFO
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)
267.332.8737
Phone Conference ID: 444 933 813#

Agenda

11:00 am Roll Call

11:05 am Welcome

Acting Deputy Secretary, Dr. Tanya I. Garcia

11:10 am Presentation: PA GOAL: Pennsylvania Grants for Open and Affordable Learning

Alison Bradley, Partnership for Academic Libraries Collaboration and
Innovation (PALCI)

Introduced by Sarah Greene, Office of Commonwealth Libraries

11:35 am Group Discussion: Best Practices in Open Educational Resources

11:50 am Committee Member Updates

Best Practices and Innovative Use of Federal Relief Funds for Instructional Materials
Advisory Committee Members

11:55 am Public Comment

12:00 pm Adjourn

2021 Future Meeting Dates

July 28, 2021
October 27, 2021

COLLEGE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
11:00 am to 12:00 pm

MICROSOFT TEAMS INFO
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)
267.332.8737
Phone Conference ID: 444 933 813#

Agenda

11:00 am Roll Call

11:05 am Welcome

Acting Deputy Secretary, Dr. Tanya I. Garcia

11:10 am Presentation: PA GOAL: Pennsylvania Grants for Open and Affordable Learning

Alison Bradley, Partnership for Academic Libraries Collaboration and
Innovation (PALCI)

Introduced by Sarah Greene, Office of Commonwealth Libraries

11:35 am Group Discussion: Best Practices in Open Educational Resources

11:50 am Committee Member Updates

Best Practices and Innovative Use of Federal Relief Funds for Instructional Materials
Advisory Committee Members

11:55 am Public Comment

12:00 pm Adjourn

2021 Future Meeting Dates

October 27, 2021