



# State University System Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report

Fall 2018



## SUMMARY OF STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM of FLORIDA TEXTBOOK AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AFFORDABILITY REPORTS FALL 2018

House Bill 7019 was passed during the 2016 Legislative Session (Chapter 2016-236, Laws of Florida). The legislation amended section 1004.085, Florida Statutes, establishing new requirements regarding the textbook and instructional materials adoption process at public colleges and institutions in Florida. Each institution in the State University System is now required to submit an annual report by September 30 of each year, beginning in 2016, to the Chancellor of the State University System with four components.

- The selection process for textbooks and instructional materials for general education courses identified with a wide cost variance and those with high enrollments.
- Specific initiatives of each institution designed to reduce the costs of textbooks and instructional materials.
- Institution policies implemented for the posting of textbooks and instructional materials information for students.
- The number of courses and course sections that were unable to meet the textbook and instructional materials posting deadline in the previous academic year.

The following is a summary of the 2018 institution reports. Individual institution reports will be posted to the Board of Governors website.

### Textbook and Instructional Materials Selection Process for General Education Courses

For general education courses, the institutions reported that the selection of materials for course assignments is completed by individual faculty members or as collective faculty within a department. One institution reported that program coordinators for each disciplinary area collaborate with faculty to select a common text(s) for all sections of a general education course.

### Specific Initiatives Designed to Reduce Costs

Institutions reported a variety of initiatives to reduce the cost of textbook and instructional materials. Some of these initiatives are outlined below, and more detail is available in the individual reports.

- Faculty-Focused Initiatives
  - o Improving the course materials adoption process to include options and pricing information resulting in greater efficiency and compliance
  - o Incentivizing faculty to adopt, adapt, or author free or low-cost course materials
  - o Expanding the use of common materials
  - o Developing instructional materials in the departments and assisting faculty in locating open-access and alternative materials
  - o Piloting sequential e-textbooks, open access interactive instructional materials, and digital delivery



- o Providing faculty members and administrators a timeline for actions and reminders
- Student-Focused Initiatives
  - o Providing information on text and instructional materials prior to or during registration
  - o Establishing textbook loan programs and lending libraries
  - o Providing no-cost instructional materials on reserve in the library
  - o Maintaining current course materials information on the bookstore portal
- Institution-Wide Programs
  - o Florida State University Libraries Alternative Textbook Grant Program supports faculty development of open or library-licensed course materials that are free and available to students. Since November 2016, five grants were awarded to faculty for zero-cost course material adoptions in general education courses with a total projected savings to students of \$79,029 by Summer 2019.
  - o The OpenStax Institutional Partner Program at Florida International University (FIU) increases the use of open educational resources.
  - o FIU's Affordability Counts Initiative lowers the cost of course materials to \$20 or less per credit. As of June 2018, over 175 faculty have participated in the program, with 240 courses designated as "affordable courses."
  - o The University of Florida (UF) is currently piloting Affordable UF, recognizing courses with materials costing less than \$20 per credit hour.
  - o The All Access program at UF provided affordable e-books on an opt-in basis to students in 142 courses for Spring 2018. In Fall 2017 and Spring 2018, 47% of course materials sales from the UF Bookstore were UF All Access materials.
  - o E-Books for the Classroom + at the University of South Florida provides open access to over 500,000 e-books. The cost benefit for Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 was \$253,783.
  - o The University of West Florida Textbook Affordability Program provides one copy of each textbook required for all undergraduate courses for loan through the library.
- Institution Bookstore Student Assistance Programs
  - o Offering a variety of options including new and used print and digital
  - o Providing textbook rental programs for print and digital versions
  - o Allowing a line of credit or book vouchers for students awaiting financial aid
  - o Offering bookstore price-match guarantee programs

### Institution Policies and Processes for Posting Information for Students

Institutions reported various policies and processes for ensuring the textbook and instructional materials posting requirement is met and include the following.

- Requiring the textbook and instructional materials adoption information prior to the required 45 day posting deadline.
- Providing faculty with a list of courses without textbooks.



- Monitoring compliance of the posting of information for required course materials on the institution websites.

### Course Sections Meeting and Not Meeting the 45 Day Posting Requirement

The amended statute, effective July 1, 2016, requires institutions to post a hyperlink to lists of the required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials for at least 95% of all courses and course sections at least 45 days prior to the start of classes for each term. For the 2018 report, 10 of the 12 institutions met the 95% threshold for the Fall 2017 semester and Spring 2018 semester. This is an increase from five of the 12 institutions meeting the requirement for the Fall 2016 semester and nine of the 12 State University System institutions meeting the requirement for the Spring 2017 semester.

INSTITUTION	Fall 2017		Spring 2018	
	NOT MET	MET	NOT MET	MET
FAMU	99 (4%)	2,616 (96%)	101 (4%)	2,563 (96%)
FAU	1,240 (26%)	5,730 (74%)	101 (3%)	4,745 (97%)
FGCU	86 (5%)	1,620 (95%)	223 (14%)	1,434 (86%)
FIU	427 (5%)	8,247 (95%)	275 (3%)	7,677 (97%)
FL POLY	0	268 (100%)	0	226 (100%)
FSU	69 (<1%)	11,445 (99%)	68 (<1%)	10,952 (99%)
NCF	2 (1%)	187 (99%)	4 (2%)	189 (98%)
UCF	968 (15%)	5,153 (85%)	146 (3%)	5,702 (97%)
UF	121 (1%)	10,726 (99%)	429 (4%)	10,481 (96%)
UNF	79 (3%)	2,281 (97%)	173 (8%)	2,035 (92%)
USF	161 (3%)	5,863 (97%)	162 (3%)	5,690 (97%)
UWF	44 (2%)	2,357 (98%)	19 (1%)	2,174 (99%)