

State University System Textbook & Instructional Materials Affordability Report

Academic Year
Fall 2024 – Spring 2025





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Summary of the State University System of Florida Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report for Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

Section 1004.085, Florida Statutes, establishes requirements regarding the textbook and instructional materials adoption process at public colleges and institutions in Florida. The law requires each institution's board of trustees in the State University System to submit an annual report by September 30 of each year to the Chancellor of the State University System. Each institution's report is required to address the following components.

- The selection process for textbooks and instructional materials for high-enrollment courses
- Specific initiatives of each institution are designed to reduce the costs of textbooks and instructional materials
- Institution policies implemented for posting textbook and instructional materials information for students
- The number of courses and course sections that did not meet the textbook and instructional materials posting deadline in the previous academic year
- A database of required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials that are searchable by specified components and downloadable, which includes course syllabi for general education core course options

The following is a summary of the fall 2024 and spring 2025 institutions' reports.

Textbook and Instructional Materials Selection Process for Courses with High Enrollments

For courses identified with high enrollments, the institutions reported that the selection process for textbooks and instructional materials for course assignments varies. Course materials are selected by individual faculty members, collective faculty within a department, the department chair, and/or through combined efforts of individual faculty, department committees, and the chair of the department.

Specific Initiatives Designed to Reduce Cost

Institutions reported a variety of initiatives to reduce the cost of textbooks and instructional materials. Examples of faculty, student, and bookstore initiatives that are common across multiple institutions are outlined below, and more details are available in the individual reports.

Faculty-Focused Initiatives

- Improving the course materials adoption process to include options and pricing information
- Incentivizing faculty to adopt, adapt, or author free or low-cost course materials
- Expanding the use of common materials
- Developing instructional materials in the departments and assisting faculty in locating open-access and alternative materials
- Providing faculty members and administrators with a timeline for actions and reminders

Student-Focused Initiatives

- Providing information on textbooks and instructional materials before or during registration
- Providing the opt-in and/or the opt-out provision for the purchase of course materials
- Maintaining textbook loan programs and lending libraries
- Providing no-cost instructional materials on reserve in the library

Institution Bookstore Student Assistance Programs

- Offering a variety of options, including new and used print and digital
- Providing textbook rental programs for print and digital versions
- Allowing a line of credit or book vouchers for students awaiting financial aid
- Offering bookstore price-match guarantee programs

Institution Programs

All institutions also have specific institutional initiatives related to textbook affordability. Additional information can be found in the individual reports; select examples are provided below.

- Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University continued its “Rattler Pack Initiative,” providing all required undergraduate textbooks and materials for \$24 per credit hour and ensuring access by the first day of class. The program generated almost \$3 million in student savings, with students saving an average of 42% per semester on course materials.
- Florida International University (FIU) experienced continued growth and success through the Panther Book Pack inclusive access program. The program started in fall 2021 and provides required course materials by the first day of class at \$20.50 per credit hour. Florida International University, in partnership with Barnes & Noble, reported that the program generated significant student savings in the 2024-2025 Academic Year, with over \$5 million in savings each semester.

- Six institutions offer the opt-in provision to purchase course materials.¹ An example of this model is provided by the University of Florida's (UF) bookstore. Since the program's inception in 2014, UF has processed over 616,900 opt-in transactions through spring 2025. Since 2014, the institution has saved students over \$78 million compared to purchasing a new print book or a digital equivalent. During the spring 2025 semester, UF processed a total of 48,130 opt-in transactions, resulting in savings of over \$5 million compared to purchasing a new print book or a digital equivalent.
- Five institutions reported offering the opt-out provision to purchase course materials.² An example of this model is the University of North Florida's opt-out Follett Access program, which delivers digital course materials to students at a substantial discount before the first day of class. During the first year of the program in 2021, students using Follett Access saved over \$1 million. Within the 2024-2025 Academic Year, the savings have totaled almost \$4 million, bringing the cumulative total to \$5 million since the program's launch.

No-Cost Educational Resources

All twelve institutions reported utilizing no-cost materials and/or open educational resources (OER). For fall 2024, 48% of course sections offered across the State University System reported using course materials at no cost to the students. For spring 2025, 52% of course sections reported using course materials at no cost to the students. Table 1 summarizes the number of course sections that did not require or recommend purchasing a textbook(s) or instructional materials and/or utilized OER.

¹ The six institutions offering the opt-in provision are Florida Atlantic University, Florida Gulf Coast University, Florida State University, University of Central Florida, University of Florida, and University of South Florida.

² The five institutions offering the opt-out provision are Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Florida International University, Florida State University, University of North Florida, and University of West Florida.

Table 1: Course Sections with Materials Offered at No Cost to Students for Academic Year 2024-2025

SUS Institution	Fall 2024			Spring 2025		
	Total Course Sections ¹	Section(s) with No-Cost Materials/OER	%	Total Course Sections ¹	Section(s) with No-Cost Materials/OER	%
FAMU	3,379	1115	33%	3,423	1,176	34%
FAU	5,691	2,764	49%	5,515	2,810	51%
FGCU	2,775	994	36%	2,676	943	35%
FIU	7,396	3,950	53%	7,276	3,688	51%
FL POLY	346	136	39%	329	152	46%
FSU	12,318	8,376	68%	12,350	8,866	72%
NCF	220	80	36%	241	131	54%
UCF	13,444	9,902	74%	11,054	7,671	69%
UF	15,905	7,725	49%	15,488	7,763	50%
UNF	3,032	1,392	46%	3,067	1,561	51%
USF	8,576	4,946	58%	8,475	3,241	62%
UWF	2,573	997	39%	2,458	1,047	43%
TOTAL	75,655	42,377	48%	72,352	39,049	52%

Source: Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2025.

¹Total course sections, including course exceptions

Systemwide Initiative

The Board of Governors approved the State University System of Florida Action Plan for the Pricing of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials at its August 29, 2019, meeting. This initiative aims to provide students with access to quality and affordable textbooks and instructional materials. The initiative also helps ensure that students throughout the System will pay consistent prices for the same materials.

The initiative includes the following.

- Student cost of course materials, including pricing mark-ups by university bookstore vendors, is (a) \$20 or less per credit hour or (b) more than \$20 per credit hour, but at a noticeably lower retail cost than students would otherwise pay.
- The format of materials that meet the pricing described is identified as either print, digital, or both.
- Students have access to materials on the first day of class and continue to have access to digital materials beyond the end of the course.
- Students have the option of print-on-demand for digital materials.

- Accessibility for students with disabilities is available.
- By January 20 of each year, publishers will provide the list of materials that meet the components of this initiative to faculty for review and consideration.
- Bookstore vendors develop mechanisms for capturing and reporting faculty use of no-cost resources.
- Institutions have access to data for reporting purposes.

For fall 2024, 29% of the course materials across the System cost the student \$20 or less per credit hour, which is an eight-percentage-point increase in course sections that required or recommended textbook and instructional materials priced at \$20 or less per credit hour compared to the prior year. For spring 2025, 28% of the course materials across the System cost the student \$20 or less per credit hour, which is a seven-percentage-point increase compared to the prior year. Table 2 summarizes the number of course sections that required or recommended textbook(s) and instructional materials that met the State University System of Florida Action Plan for the Pricing of Textbooks and Other Instructional Materials.

Table 2: Course Sections with Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials for \$20 or Less Per Credit Hour for Academic Year 2024-2025

SUS Institution	Fall 2024			Spring 2025		
	Total Course Sections ¹	Section(s) with Course Materials for \$20 or Less per Credit Hour	%	Total Course Sections ¹	Section(s) with Course Materials for Less than \$20 or Less per Credit Hour	%
FAMU	3,379	1182	35%	3,423	1232	36%
FAU	5,691	116	2%	5,515	98	2%
FGCU	2,775	420	15%	2,676	428	16%
FIU	7,396	4,476	61%	7,276	4,214	58%
FL POLY	346	52	15%	329	33	10%
FSU	12,318	943	8%	12,350	715	6%
NCF	220	113	51%	241	108	45%
UCF	13,444	614	5%	11,054	562	5%
UF	15,905	3,111	20%	15,488	2,352	15%
UNF	3,032	508	17%	3,067	479	16%
USF	8,576	5,098	59%	8,475	5,352	63%
UWF	2,573	1,647	64%	2,458	1,629	66%
TOTAL	75,655	18,280	29%	72,352	17,202	28%

Source: Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2025.

¹Total course sections, including course exceptions

All twelve institutions reported that faculty utilized no-cost instructional materials and selected textbooks and instructional materials, costing the student \$20 or less per credit hour throughout the academic year. In total, 79% of course sections across the System offered in the fall and spring semesters utilized no-cost or low-cost course materials.

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, including the following.

- Requiring the textbook and instructional materials adoption information before the required 45-day posting deadline
- Providing faculty with a list of courses without adopted course materials before the posting deadline
- Monitoring compliance with the posting of information for required course materials on the institution's websites

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

Section 1004.085, Florida Statutes, 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 each term's first day of class. For the 2024-2025 report, 11 of the 12 institutions reported meeting the 95% threshold for the fall 2024 semester. For the spring 2025 semester, all 12 institutions reported meeting the 95% threshold. Table 3 summarizes the percentage of course sections that meet and do not meet the 45-day posting requirement.

Table 3: Course Sections Meeting the 45-Day Posting Requirement for Academic Year 2024-2025

SUS Institution	Fall 2024			Spring 2025		
	Total Course Sections ¹	Met	Not Met	Total Course Sections ¹	Met	Not Met
FAMU	3,138	98%	2%	3,254	97%	3%
FAU	4,774	97%	3%	4,508	97%	3%
FGCU	2,563	98%	2%	2,456	98%	2%
FIU	4,793	98%	2%	4,540	96%	4%
FL POLY	345	100%	0%	312	97%	3%
FSU	11,710	98%	2%	11,778	97%	3%
NCF	213	91%	9%	241	100%	0%
UCF	12,851	97%	3%	9,966	98%	2%
UF	14,705	95%	5%	13,890	96%	4%
UNF	3,018	97%	3%	3,047	97%	3%
USF	8,377	96%	4%	8,259	96%	4%
UWF	2,573	100%	0%	2,458	99%	1%

Source: Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2025.

¹Total course sections, excluding course exceptions

Published List of Textbooks and Instructional Materials and Course Syllabi

Section 1004.085, Florida Statutes, requires universities to maintain a database of required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials that are searchable by specified components and downloadable. The database must also include course syllabi for general education core course options. The database must contain the required information for at least five academic years.

The law specifically requires the database for required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials to include the following.

- The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) or other identifying information, which must include, at a minimum, all the following: the title, all authors listed, publishers, edition number, copyright date, published date, and other relevant information necessary to identify the specific textbooks or instructional materials required and recommended for each course
- Be searchable by the course subject, the course number, the course title, the course instructor's name, the title of each assigned textbook or instructional material, and each author of an assigned textbook or instructional material

- Be easily downloadable by current and prospective students
- Include course syllabi with information on the course curriculum, the goals, objectives, student expectations, and assessment of student performance for general education core courses

Table 4 provides hyperlinks to the published lists of required and recommended textbooks and instructional materials for each institution, as well as links to the course syllabi for general education core courses. The above information must remain posted in a public, searchable database for at least five academic years.

Table 4: Hyperlinks to Required and Recommended Textbooks & Instructional Materials & Syllabi for General Education Core Courses

SUS Institutions	Required & Recommended Textbooks & Instructional Materials	Course Syllabi for General Education Core Courses
FAMU	FAMU Course Materials	FAMU Syllabi
FAU	FAU Course Materials	FAU Syllabi
FGCU	FGCU Course Materials	FGCU Syllabi
FIU	FIU Course Materials	FIU Syllabi
FL POLY	FL POLY Course Materials	FL POLY Syllabi
FSU	FSU Course Materials	FSU Syllabi
NCF	NCF Course Materials	NCF Syllabi
UCF	UCF Course Materials	UCF Syllabi
UF	UF Course Materials	UF Syllabi
UNF	UNF Course Materials	UNF Syllabi
USF	USF Course Materials	USF Syllabi
UWF	UWF Course Materials	UWF Syllabi

Source: Annual Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability Report provided by each SUS institution, September 2025.



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