

# Zero and Low-Cost Materials




**Academic Senate**  
for California Community Colleges

LEADERSHIP. EMPOWERMENT. VOICE.

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# Overview

- What is OER?/Why OER?/Is OER “OK”?
  - A BRIEF History of Textbook Affordability/OER in the CCCs
  - Zero-cost requirements
  - Status of CA-OERC
  - The future of OER in the CCCs
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# What are Open Educational Resources (OER)?

- Teaching and learning materials that are openly licensed and freely available online for everyone to use, whether you are an instructor, student, or self-learner.
- OER most often refers to open access textbooks and ancillary materials that are available at little or no cost to students.



### FINDING 3: HIGH TEXTBOOK PRICES HAVE A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON STUDENTS AT COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

When broken down by type of college, our data show that a greater percentage of community college students use financial aid to purchase textbooks:

28% of students use financial aid for textbooks at 4-year public colleges...



...Compared to 50% at 2-year and community colleges.



To attribute this work, please credit the Student PIRGs and provide a link to [www.studentpirgs.org/textbooks](http://www.studentpirgs.org/textbooks).



# There is a direct relationship between textbook costs and student success

60%+ do not purchase textbooks at some point due to cost



50% take fewer courses due to textbook cost



31% choose not to register for a course due to textbook cost



23% regularly go without textbooks due to cost



14% have dropped a course due to textbook cost




10% have withdrawn from a course due to textbook cost



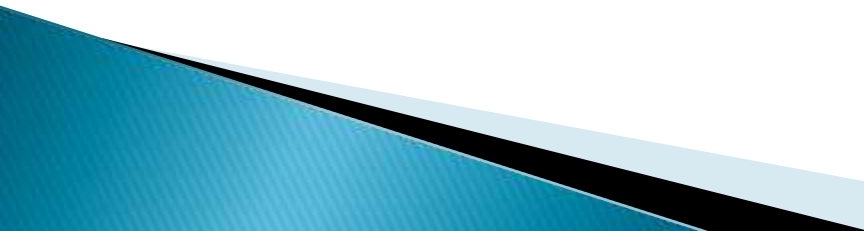
Source: 2012 student survey by Florida Virtual Campus

Is OER “OK”?

# SB 1052/1053, CA-OER Council, and Open Source Digital Library

- California public higher education systems will create an online library of OER and open textbooks
  - SB 1052 authorized creation of CA-OER Council with the goal of identifying OER materials for 50 high impact courses across UC, CSU, and CCCs
  - SB1053 authorized development of a CA Open Source Digital Library
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# As a result of SB1052 and 1053, CA-OERC...


- Identified available free and open e-textbooks for 50 high impact courses
  - Created and administered a rigorous review process
  - Established COOL4Ed.org as a repository for free and open e-textbooks and the reviews
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# AB 798 (Bonilla, 2015)

## College Textbook Affordability Act

Up to \$3 million may be used in CSU and CCCs for:

- Professional development for faculty
  - Professional development for staff whose work supports providing students with OER
  - OER curation activities
  - Curriculum modification
  - Technology support for OER adoption efforts
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# The Zero-Textbook-Cost (“ZTC”) Degree Program

- ▶ Created in 2016 in AB 1602 (Higher Education Trailer Bill)
- ▶ Provides grants to community college districts for “developing and implementing associate degrees and career technical education certificate programs earned entirely by completing courses that eliminate conventional textbook costs by using alternative instructional materials and methodologies.”

# “Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Degrees”



California Community Colleges  
Zero Textbook Cost Degree

... community college associate degrees or CTE certificates earned entirely by completing courses that eliminate conventional textbook costs by using alternative instructional materials and methodologies, including open educational resources ...


***CA Education Code Section 78052(a)***

# Senate Bill 1359 (Block, 2016)




- ▶ Requires California Community Colleges and California State Universities and requests the University of California system to clearly highlight, by means that may include a symbol or logo in the online campus course schedule by January 1, 2018 for courses that exclusively use digital course materials that are free of charge to students and therefore not required to be purchased.

# Latest CA-OERC

- ▶ Second round of grants to be distributed in Fall 2018
    - ASCCC appoints three members for this effort
  - ▶ Update of Cool4Ed.org website
  - ▶ Expansion of CSU efforts around Affordable Learning Solutions
  - ▶ Continued efforts at the CSU Chancellor's Office to promote use of OER
  - ▶ UC is not included in this particular grant
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# OER in the Colleges Today

- ▶ Individual colleges have ZTC grants
  - ▶ All colleges required to have implemented designation in class schedule to identify courses with no associated text costs
  - ▶ Various uncoordinated OER efforts exist
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# OER in the CCCs Tomorrow


- ▶ At present, no effort is underway to:
  - systematically identify and address barriers to OER adoption,
  - support local OER implementation efforts, and
  - leverage the expertise in the CCC system to create a sustainable OER ecosystem.

# ASCCC Proposal – California Community College OER Initiative – CCCOERI


- ▶ 5-year project (~1 million/per year)
  - ▶ Implement OER system-wide
  - ▶ Coordinate state level activities to increase OER availability and support local OER implementation
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# CCCOERI

- At the end of the initial project period, the structure and accomplishments of the CCCOERI would be evaluated and future funding needs identified.
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# Goals

- ▶ Ensure OER availability for at least 70% of all C-ID courses by the end of the 5-year term.
  - ▶ Significantly reduce costs for students in at least 50% of the most highly enrolled courses.
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# Goals

- ▶ Develop systems to replace high-cost homework systems such as "My Math Lab" and other ancillary materials that facilitate faculty OER adoption.

# Goals

- ▶ Establish a network of OER Liaisons to serve as local OER champions.
  - ▶ Develop OER resources for selected CTE areas.
  - ▶ Leverage prior related work.
  - ▶ Facilitate achieving the goals of AB 705 and other legislation/initiatives.
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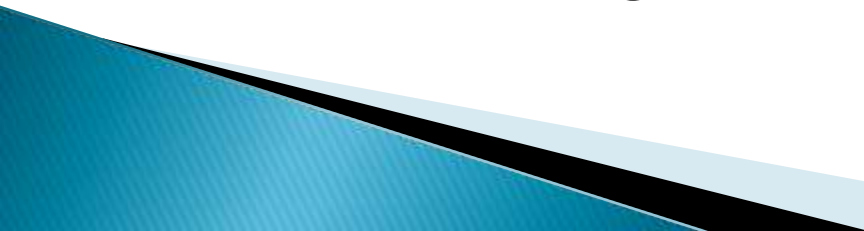
Sounds good, right?

# AB 1809 – Budget trailer bill


- ▶ **SEC. 73.**

- ▶ *(a) For the 2018–19 fiscal year, the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges for allocation to the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges, consistent with subdivision (b) of Section 70901 of the Education Code, to support the development of, and the expansion of the use of, open educational resources for the California Community Colleges. Funds appropriated pursuant to this subdivision shall be available for encumbrance until June 30, 2023.*
- ▶ *(b) The Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges shall report to the Legislature, in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code, and to the Department of Finance on or before February 1, 2022, on the progress of supporting and expanding open educational resources pursuant to subdivision (a).*

*The report shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, all of the following:*


- ▶ *(1) The number of open educational resources materials that have been created from the receipt of moneys pursuant to subdivision (a).*
  - ▶ *(2) The number and percentage of faculty at each campus that have adopted open educational resource textbooks for their courses.*
  - ▶ *(3) The number of students enrolled in course sections that use open educational resource textbooks.*
  - ▶ *(4) The estimated average amount of moneys students described in paragraph (3) saved as a result of using open educational resources.*
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# Activities

- ▶ Identify OER needs and determine how best to meet them.
  - ▶ Create discipline faculty teams with leaders to facilitate resource identification and development.
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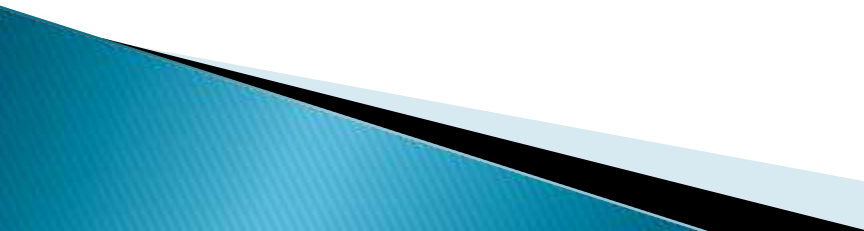
# Activities

- ▶ Establish an RFP process to fund the development of high-cost homework systems and other resources.
  - ▶ Provide expertise with respect to copyright, accessibility, and technology/instructional design to facilitate local and statewide OER efforts.
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# Activities

- ▶ Build on the accomplishments of other state-funded OER efforts and leverage the work and resources of existing grants and initiatives.

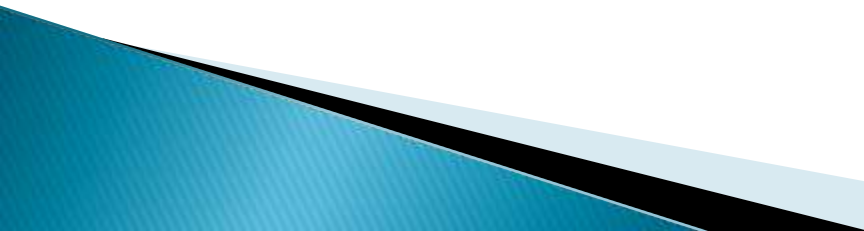
# Identify gaps in OER availability and barriers to OER adoption

- ① Develop a list of courses with available OER and (where needed) available ancillary materials and a list of courses without available OER and ancillary materials.
  - ② Identify three transferable GE areas (IGETC and/or CSU GE Breadth) for which there are no or few courses in the area with OER available.
  - ③ Identify six CTE programs of study (certificates and/or degrees) with one or more required courses lacking OER.
  - ④ Identify ten Associate Degrees for Transfer with one or more required courses lacking OER.
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# Facilitate OER adaptation and development with technology resources

- ① Procure a platform system for curating, editing, authoring, and storing OER resources (authoring tool) and a system for authoring assessments by 2020.
  - ② Within one-year of tool procurement, faculty at 80% of the CCCs will have received training.
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# Fill gaps in OER availability

- ① Identify 20 high enrollment/most impactful courses in which OER is not available and/or the where majority of colleges use an online homework system with a strategy for developing open-sourced alternatives by 2024.
  - ② Curate, adapt, and/or develop OER resources for three transferable GE areas (IGETC and/or CSU GE Breadth) for which there are no or few courses in the area with OER available as determined during the needs assessment.
  - ③ Ensure that at least 60% of the CCCs have an entire GE pattern that is OER-based available by 2020.
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# Fill gaps in OER availability

- ④ Curate, adapt, and/or develop OER resources for all courses in the six CTE programs of study...
  - ⑤ Ensure that at least 60% of the CCCs with the CTE programs referenced in Outcome 4 use OER resources for all courses in identified CTE programs by 2020.
  - ⑥ Curate, adapt, and/or develop OER resources for the ten ADTs identified during the needs assessment.
  - ⑦ Ensure that at least 60% of the CCCs with the ADT programs referenced in Outcome 6 use OER resources for all courses in the identified ADTs by 2020.
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# Ensure the existence and sustainability of OER online homework systems


- ① Make online homework systems available for three new courses each year of the grant.
  - ② Spend the allocated budget funding to assure sustainability (2024) for programming, maintenance, and server costs needed for online homework systems complimenting OER.
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# Address barriers to OER adoption

- ① Increase the number of faculty using OER by 10% each year of the grant by increasing awareness of OER availability and benefits. (Survey tool can be utilized for measure).
  - ② Provide some form of OER training to faculty at all 114 colleges.
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# Other Objectives

- ▶ Support local OER efforts
  - ▶ Advocate for OER within other statewide initiatives
  - ▶ Identify – and develop – OER solutions related to initiatives and legislation
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# Thanks!

