

Open Textbooks for Rural Arizona: Request for Proposals Full Narrative

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Project Purpose

Led by Yavapai College, a regional consortium of seven community colleges was awarded \$801,218 from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). Together, Coconino Community College along with Arizona Western College, Eastern Arizona College, Central Arizona College, Mohave Community College, Northland Pioneer College, and Yavapai College will develop and share Open Educational Resources (hereafter OERs) to help reduce student textbook costs.

Through the four-year Open Textbooks for Rural Arizona Initiative, we intend to empower and incentivize CCC faculty to replace proprietary textbooks with open educational resources. Our initial short-term goal is to reduce costs for students, so they can accelerate progress through their programs of study. The long-term impact will facilitate a change in culture by establishing processes and new teaching methods that better connect course materials, pedagogy, and student learning outcomes.

Timeline

October 4, 2024: RFP published

November 1, 2024: Proposals due

November 15, 2024: Review completed, funded proposals selected

Scope

The OER Initiative will prioritize proposals based on the following criteria:

- Proposals geared towards Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) zero-cost textbook adoption or course production will be preferred. Proposal awards determined on a case-by-case basis.
- The development or adoption of open textbooks and materials to address marketplace gaps in higher-enrollment courses or high-demand occupations. Proposal awards determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Preferred eligibility will be given to proposals that commit to using the newly developed or adopted OER textbook or course in several sections of a course per semester. However, our aim is to be as inclusive as possible and all proposals will be considered.

*Only credit-bearing courses within degree-granting programs will be funded by this grant.

Faculty Compensation and Workload

Description of Activity	Estimated Workload	Faculty Stipend
OER Tutorials	6 hours	Different levels required based on project type and included as part of the project stipend
Build OER Course	~8.5 hrs./wk. for 16 weeks (~4 months)	\$4692
Semi Build OER Course or Textbook	~8.5 hrs./wk for 8 weeks (~2 months)	\$2346
Adopt/Adapt an existing OER Course or Textbook	~5 hrs./wk. for 4 weeks (~1 months)	\$690
OER Background Research	~5 hrs./wk. for 4 weeks (~1 months)	\$690
Full Build - OER Textbook	~8.5 hrs./wk. for 16 weeks (~5 months)	\$4692

An **OER Curriculum Designer** should be designated and will have the following responsibilities:

1. Work with the Instructional Designer, Librarian, and Instructional Technologist to ensure the OER meets the Creative Commons CC BY or CC BY-NC License Criteria, CCC Essential Design Standards (if a full course), Accessibility Standards, and Consortium OER Standards.
2. Submit a work plan.
3. Upload, edit or link all OER creations in the OERCommons.org Consortium Hub
4. Acclimate section instructors to the OER course/textbook structure
5. Inform your supervisor and/or the bookstore about adopting the Zero Textbook Cost Course/Textbook

Collaborating instructors can share the compensation evenly.

Project Types

- OER Background Research** focuses on locating a course, textbook, or course materials that are closely aligned with CCC course outcomes for potential further development under an adopt & adapt, semi-build or full-build project depending on the outcomes of the research.
- Adopt & Adapt** a course, textbook, or course materials that are closely aligned with CCC course outcomes exists and is available for adoption by the faculty member. Most of the work under an "Adopt & Adapt" will consist of content review, content selection, and adaptation/revision of existing content. Revision could focus on integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion components into the final OER. Some degree of assessment or assignment authoring may be required (up to 30%).
- Semi-Build** a course, textbook, or course materials that are aligned with CCC outcomes exist, but entire "courses" are not available for adoption. Most of the work under a "Semi-Build" will consist of identifying gaps in existing content and authoring supplemental materials, content, or assessment to create an entire course that is aligned with learning outcomes. Authoring could include creating assessments and course materials that celebrate diversity and promote equity and inclusion using UDL principles. Therefore, the faculty developer will be required to author assessments (between 31% to 100%) aligned to the content and learning outcomes. Depending on the amount of work required, converting a shared course to an OER course could fall under this project type.
- Full-Build, Course** - no course aligned with CCC outcomes exists and the instructor will need to create the entire course. All the work under a "Full-Build" will be the

creation/authorship of all course content including, assignments and assessments with a CC BY or CC BY-NC Creative Commons license. Assessments are unavailable for adoption and the course designers will be required to author all assessments necessary to assess student learning. Depending on the amount of work required, converting a shared course to an OER course could fall under this project type.

- Full-Build, Textbook** - no textbook aligned with CCC outcomes exists and the instructor will need to create the entire textbook. All the work under a "Full-Build" will be the creation/authorship of all textbook chapters and supplemental teaching resources with a CC BY or CC BY-NC Creative Commons license.

FIPSE Grant OER Requirements

Any materials adopted, adapted, or created as a result of this grant will adhere to the CCC Essential Design Standards (for courses), [WCAG 2.2 Level AA ADA Standards for Accessibility](#), and assigned a [CC BY](#) or [CC BY-NC](#) license. All materials that you use to remix also needs to have a CC BY or CC BY-NC or Public Domain license. Materials will be hosted on the OERCommons.org Consortium website. The peer review process will take place through the OER repository where faculty from multiple institutions will be able to work in a shared space.

The scope of work must be completed in the grant year requested on your proposal. For example, if you decide to work on a project for Grant Year 4 in the Fall 2024, then all your work needs to be complete by 8/31/2025.

Year 4 ends: 8/31/2025

Guidelines for Proposal Preparation

Please complete the following [RFP Google Form](#), which will require the following information:

- OER Curriculum Designer Name (If more than one person is applying for the grant, please identify who will be involved with the project)
- Collaborator Name(s)
- Project Timeline
- Intended type of OER project (i.e., Adapt/Adopt an existing OER course, Semi-Build an OER Course or Textbook, Build an OER Course, Create an OER textbook)
- Project Description (Please write at least one **full paragraph** describing your project deliverables)
- Course prefix, number, and title

- [SUN Number](#) (if applicable)
- Items to be developed, adapted, or adopted (brief description of materials to be created)
- Average enrollment per year based on historical data (per course)
- Cost of commercial materials being replaced by open content (per student)
- Expected first semester use of new material(s)
- Expected number of sections that will use the materials (estimated)

[Submit Proposal](#) due: November 1, 2024

Notification of funding: November 15, 2024