

OER Toolkit

“OER Toolkit” by [Cheryl \(Cuillier\) Casey](#) is under a [CC BY 4.0 International license](#). This isn’t a complete list, but it should help you start or expand OER usage! URLs are working as of July 18, 2024.



About OER

- “Defining the ‘Open’ in Open Content and Open Educational Resources” (5R’s) (by David Wiley), https://edtechbooks.org/wild/open_definition
- Open Education (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/open-education>
- Connect OER (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/connect-oer>, and 2018-2019 Connect OER Annual Report (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/news/2019/sparc-releases-connect-oer-annual-report-for-2018-2019>
- OER FAQ (Open Oregon Educational Resources), <https://faq.openoregon.org>
- Open Education (William and Flora Hewlett Foundation), <https://hewlett.org/strategy/open-education>
- Open Education Information Center (Open Education Global), <https://www.oeglobal.org/oe-resource>

OER training resources

- The OER Starter Kit for Program Managers (Rebus Community), <https://press.rebus.community/oerstarterkitpm>
- OER Starter Kit (Abbey Elder of Iowa State University), <https://iastate.pressbooks.pub/oerstarterkit>
- OER Starter Kit Workbook (Abbey Elder & Stacy Katz), <https://cuny.manifoldapp.org/projects/the-oer-starter-kit-workbook>
- OER Toolkit (College Libraries Ontario), <https://tlp-lpa.ca/oer-toolkit>
- “OER Training: 2018 Workbook” (William Meinke of University of Hawai'i Outreach College), <https://pressbooks.oer.hawaii.edu/oertraining2018>
- “Creating Open Educational Resources” (free introductory course from Open University), <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/creating-open-educational-resources/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>
- “An Introduction to Open Educational Resources (OER)” (free advanced course from Open University), <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/an-introduction-open-educational-resources-oer/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>
- “Open Education” (free advanced course from Open University), <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education-development/open-education/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

OER training programs

- Certificate in Open Education Librarianship (Open Education Network), <https://open.umn.edu/oen/certificate-in-open-education-librarianship> (2023 course materials were released with a CC BY license — see <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/377736>)
- Creative Commons Certificate for librarians (10-week course), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org>; all certificate resources (CC BY), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org/about/certificate-resources-cc-by>. A print version of the materials is published with the American Library Association: *Creative Commons for Educators and Librarians* (licensed CC BY)
- Open Education Leadership Program (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/open-education-leadership-program>
- Open Educational Resources (OER) and Affordability RoadShow (Association of College & Research Libraries), <https://www.ala.org/acrl/conferences/roadshows/oer>
- OER Research Fellows (Open Education Group), <https://openedgroup.org/fellows>
- Professional Program in Open Education (Kwantlen Polytechnic University), <https://www.kpu.ca/cps/open-education>
- Institute on Open Educational Resources (American Association of Colleges and Universities), <https://www.aacu.org/event/2023-2024-institute-open-educational-resources>

Learning communities

- Resources from University of Arizona’s OER/Pressbooks Learning Communities (Cheryl [Cuillier] Casey and Cheryl Neal):
 - OER/Open Pedagogy Learning Community resources (Spring 2023): https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1G_y3LhkrDBqq89cN8_7ZJCyVGoBtQYA?usp=sharing
 - OER/Pressbooks Learning Community resources (Summer 2022): <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14Jl61dXbviZtqQNI0zfL1UP414vL0nGX?usp=sharing>
 - OER/Pressbooks Learning Community resources (Spring 2022): <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1exOd0AGPahOV2IOdPtF6mmp77drbgEBS?usp=sharing>
 - Pressbooks Learning Community resources (2020): <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wSsmPJ7d3KLwunx2YqJG59-G7Rmyge4x?usp=sharing>
- “OER Learning Circles for Instructional Improvement” by Karen Pikula (2020 Open Education Network Summit), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDAzdaF1v3w&list=PLWRE6ioG4vdZbJGUCc0XquZi23EHXXLKM&index=5>

Textbook affordability

- “Automatic Textbook Billing: Limited Choice, Uncertain Savings” by Dan Xie, 2024, <https://studentpirgs.org/2024/06/13/automatic-textbook-billing-2>
- “‘Is this an OER?’ Addressing the Complex Relationship between Open and Affordable Course Materials” by Shannon M. Smith and Abbey K. Elder, 2022, <https://isthisoeer.pubpub.org>

- “Fixing the Broken Textbook Market, Third Edition” by Cailyn Nagle and Kaitlyn Vitez, U.S. PIRG Education Fund, 2021 (licensed CC BY), <https://studentpirgs.org/2021/02/24/fixing-the-broken-textbook-market-third-edition>
- The Evolution of Affordable Content Efforts in the Higher Education Environment: Programs, Case Studies, and Examples ebook, edited by Kristi Jensen and Shane Nackerud, 2018 (licensed CC BY), <https://open.lib.umn.edu/affordablecontent>
- “Automatic Textbook Billing: An Offer Students Can’t Refuse?” by Kaitlyn Vitez, U.S. PIRG Education Fund, 2020 (licensed CC BY), <https://uspirg.org/feature/usp/automatic-textbook-billing>
- InclusiveAccess.org, <https://www.inclusiveaccess.org>
- SPARC’s Automatic Textbook Billing Contract Library, <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/automatic-textbook-billing/contract-library>

Best practices for course materials

- Administrator Checklist for Evaluating Course Materials (Open Oregon Educational Resources), <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bK-wRZp6S2uzVP3f0xj7ver4G3ajFpiwOBBFZJd875o/edit?usp=sharing> (licensed CC BY)
- Faculty Checklist for Evaluating Course Materials (Open Oregon Educational Resources), https://docs.google.com/document/d/1J0oT1xZCciyXtk1I7MB_r9saVDHlpQD7MI5Ep9uCLfM/edit?usp=sharing (licensed CC BY)
- Student Checklist for Evaluating Course Materials (Open Oregon Educational Resources), <https://docs.google.com/document/d/18OLNp9AyIWdeyifVL10w82fxmnBwCskJa34Pr46q2SQ/edit?usp=sharing> (licensed CC BY)
- Student-Centered Course Material Adoption: Best Practices (Open Oregon Educational Resources), https://docs.google.com/document/d/13nrZoGS66_t1Sk7EWvJ7EjgcSdiV-EjfOdIcWGfHLCA/edit?usp=sharing (licensed CC BY)

Finding OER

Search tools

- Openly Available Sources Integrated Search (OASIS), <https://oasis.geneseo.edu> (It currently searches open content from 115 different sources. See search widget code at <https://oasis.geneseo.edu/about.php>.)
- Mason OER Metafinder (MOM), <https://mom.gmu.edu> (It searches 22 sources, including HathiTrust, Internet Archive, OER Commons, Project Gutenberg, and the Digital Public Library of America.)
- MERLOT SmartSearch, <https://www.merlot.org> (Once you do a search in MERLOT, select the Other Libraries tab and it will expand the search to more than 80 other sites and repositories. It also includes the option to filter by Creative Commons license. Not all MERLOT content is OER.)
- California Open Online Library for Education (COOL4Ed)’s ISBN search, <https://www.cool4ed.org/findertextbooks> (Scroll down the Cool4Ed web page to find it. Input a

commercial textbook's ISBN into the search box. Results provide links to related open textbooks in MERLOT.)

- Openverse (formerly Creative Commons' new CC Search for images – now includes free stock photos, images, and audio), <https://wordpress.org/openverse>
- Creative Commons' old CC Search, <https://oldsearch.creativecommons.org>
- Google Advanced Search, https://www.google.com/advanced_search (see Usage Rights filter to filter by Creative Commons license)
- Google Advanced Image Search, https://www.google.com/advanced_image_search (see Usage Rights filter to filter by all Creative Commons licenses)

Repositories and referatories

For higher education

- Open Textbook Library has more than 1,500 open textbooks, <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks>, and MARC records for them, <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/discovery>
- OpenStax, <https://openstax.org/subjects>
- Pressbooks Directory, <https://pressbooks.directory>
- BCcampus OpenEd, <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks>
- California Open Online Library for Education (COOL4Ed), <https://www.cool4ed.org>
- LibreTexts, <https://libretexts.org>
- Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction (CALI), <https://www.cali.org/the-elangdell-bookstore>
- Center for Open Educational Resources and Language Learning (COERLL), <https://www.coerll.utexas.edu/coerll>
- Milne Open Textbooks (SUNY), <https://milneopentextbooks.org>
- Math textbooks evaluated and approved by the American Institute of Mathematics, <https://aimath.org/textbooks>
- Lumen Learning, <https://lumenlearning.com/courses> (in the Next Steps box for a course, select "View Course Content and Outcomes")

For vocational training

- SkillsCommons, <https://www.skillscommons.org>
- LibreTexts workforce materials, <https://workforce.libretexts.org>

What are other college courses using?

- Cool4Ed's C-ID/Course Materials, <https://www.cool4ed.org/course-materials> (the Faculty Showcase tab also has useful information for other instructors, <https://www.cool4ed.org/faculty-showcase>)
- Open Oregon Resources, <https://openoregon.org/resources>
- OERizona Network Hub, <https://oercommons.org/hubs/oerizona>

For primary & secondary schools

- OpenStax K-12 textbooks, <https://openstax.org/k12>
- OER Commons' K-12 Teaching and Learning Hub, <https://oercommons.org/hubs/k12>

For all ages

- OER Commons, <https://www.oercommons.org> (can use Education Level drop-down menu)
- MERLOT, <https://www.merlot.org/merlot/advSearchMaterials.htm> (can select Audience)

Subject-specific

- OER By Discipline Directory (BCcampus), <https://opentextbc.ca/oerdiscipline>
- Subject-specific OER (CCCOER), <https://www.cccoer.org/learn/find-oer/subject-specific>

Other OER content

- Flickr images, <https://www.flickr.com> (can filter by CC license)
- Pixabay images, <https://pixabay.com> (Pixabay License is similar to CC0 license)
- Wikibooks, https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Main_Page
- Project Gutenberg, <https://www.gutenberg.org>
- Smithsonian Open Access, <https://www.si.edu/openaccess>
- NASA space videos and images, <https://www.nasa.gov> (see Galleries)
- Don't forget about other .gov sites, which often have content in the public domain

Courseware for OER

- OpenStax Technology Partners: <https://openstax.org/partners>
- Commercial Platforms that Utilize OER Assessment Tool (Abbey Elder),
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xDGIKZ7T5flho7yrTs8Lpu4zpqPbeqQn76aY6qEnAUg/edit#gid=941689191>

Open pedagogy

- Open Pedagogy Portal (Open Education Network), <https://oen-openpedportal.pubpub.org>
- Open Pedagogy Project Road Map (Christina Riehman-Murphy and Bryan McGeary),
<https://oeproadmap.psu.edu>
- Open pedagogy resources handout (Cheryl [Cuillier] Casey),
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1x3YjMSJAmqOgFeAhpyvlzgsXd-ksffhs/edit?usp=sharing&oui d=101033854505881603516&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Creative Commons

- Creative Commons, <https://creativecommons.org>
- Creative Commons licenses, <https://creativecommons.org/licenses>
- Creative Commons downloads (logos, buttons, and icons),
<https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads>

- Creative Commons Certificate for librarians (10-week course), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org>; all certificate resources (CC BY), <https://certificates.creativecommons.org/about/certificate-resources-cc-by>. A print version of the materials is published with the American Library Association: [*Creative Commons for Educators and Librarians*](#) (licensed CC BY)
- Creative Commons license remix chart, https://wiki.creativecommons.org/wiki/Wiki/cc_license_compatibility

Copyright & fair use

- Best Practices in Fair Use for Open Educational Resources (American University Washington College of Law), <https://www.wcl.american.edu/impact/initiatives-programs/pijip/impact/best-practices-in-fair-use/best-practices-in-fair-use-for-open-educational-resources>
- “A Framework for Analyzing any U.S. Copyright Problem,” by Kevin L. Smith, and Lisa Macklin, <https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/entities/publication/e8c6cfe2-4aa2-431d-80fd-0e5aa71b5e41>

Advocacy

- OER Champion Playbook (Lumen Learning), <https://lumenlearning.com/champion-playbook>
- Student Government Toolkit (Student Government Resource Center), https://studentgovresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/SGRC_Making_Textbooks_Affordable_Toolkit.pdf
- OER Student Advocate Packet (Florida Virtual Campus), <https://flvc.libguides.com/oersap> [**please make a copy of these for your own use**]
- OER Student Advocate Toolkit (California Community College System and CSU System, Michelson 20MM Foundation), <https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/lesson/65748/overview>
- “OER Mythbusting” (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/oer-mythbusting>
- OER State Policy Tracker (SPARC), <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/state-policy-tracking>
- OER Advocacy Plan Worksheet (SPARC), https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jv_0JsunR4r501RXdj6qmOtiT4hjDSyR6X1dT9MnLXM/edit#
- Resources for textbook affordability campaigns + textbook cost reports (U.S. Student Public Interest Research Groups), <https://studentpirgs.org/campaigns/sp/make-textbooks-affordable> and <https://studentpirgs.org/sp/our-textbooks-research>
- OER Student Toolkit (BCcampus), <https://opentextbc.ca/studenttoolkit>
- Textbook Heroes (University of Kansas), <https://lib.ku.edu/textbook-heroes>
- Textbook Heroes (University of Texas Arlington), <https://libguides.uta.edu/utacares/heroes>
- OER Stories (Virginia Commonwealth University), <https://blogs.vcu.edu/librariystories/category/why-we-choose-open/oer-stories>
- Action Plan templates (Certificate in OER Librarianship), https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Vhcdz6-HwNZN7t8Ka5u5Hlun_H13_-LBjafC5UXDcrk/edit

OER in Promotion & Tenure

- “Valuing OER in the Tenure, Promotion, and Reappointment Process,” 2024, edited by Andrew McKinney, <https://pressbooks.cuny.edu/tenureandpromotioncasestudies>
- OER in Tenure & Promotion Matrix (DOERS3), <https://www.doers3.org/tenure-and-promotion.html>
- Open Education in Promotion, Tenure, and Faculty Development (Iowa Open Education Action Team), <https://oept.pubpub.org>

Measuring impact

- COUP [Cost, Outcomes, Usage, Perceptions] Framework (Open Education Group), <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/lib-docs/387>
- “Section VII: Collecting and Reporting Data” in *The OER Starter Kit for Program Managers* (Rebus Community), <https://press.rebus.community/oerstarterkitpm/chapter/chapter-21-data-collection-and-strategies-for-oer-programs>

Research

- “SCOPE of Open Education: A New Framework for Research,” 2023, by Virginia Elizabeth Clinton-Lisell, Jasmine Roberts-Crews, and Lindsey Gwozdz, <https://doi.org/10.19173/irrodl.v24i4.7356>
- Rebus Community’s “Beyond the Horizon: Broadening Our Understanding of OER Efficacy,” 2023, <https://press.rebus.community/beyond-the-horizon>
- Bay View Analytics’ “Digitally Established: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2023,” <https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/digitallyestablished-2023.pdf>
- Florida Virtual Campus’ 2022 Student Textbook and Course Materials Survey, <https://dlss.flvc.org/research>
- Bay View Analytics’ “Turning Point for Digital Curricula: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2022,” <https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/turningpointdigitalcurricula.pdf>
- “A Comparison of Academic Outcomes in Courses Taught With Open Educational Resources and Publisher Content,” 2021, <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.3102/0013189X211052563>
- Bay View Analytics’ “A Year Apart: Adapting Curricula for a Pandemic, Educational Resources in U.S. K-12 Education, 2021,” https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/k-12_oer_ayearapart.pdf
- Bay View Analytics’ “Digital Texts in the Time of COVID: Educational Resources in U.S. Higher Education, 2020,” <https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/digitaltextsintimeofcovid.pdf>
- Achieving the Dream’s 2020 “OER at Scale: The Academic and Economic Outcomes of Achieving the Dream’s OER Degree Initiative,” <https://www.achievingthedream.org/resource/17993/oer-at-scale-the-academic-and-economic-outcomes-of-achieving-the-dream-s-oer-degree-initiative>
- Regional education compacts’ 2020 “Gap Analysis and Environmental Scan: Sharing Observations, Priorities, Opportunities in National OER Landscape,” <https://wcet.wiche.edu/resources/report-gap-analysis-and-environmental-scan-sharing-observations-priorities-opportunities-in-national-oer-landscape>
- “The Impact of Open Educational Resources on Various Student Success Metrics” (University of Georgia, 2018), <http://www.isetl.org/ijtlhe/pdf/IJTLHE3386.pdf>

- Open Education Research Hub, <https://oerhub.net>

Marketing

- Creative Commons handouts and resources, <https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads>
- Open Education Week (in March), <https://www.openeducationweek.org>
- Open Access Week (in October), <http://www.openaccessweek.org>
- Also see resources above under Advocacy

Creative Commons-licensed slide decks

- Nicole Allen, Director of Open Education for SPARC, shares slides from her many presentations and trainings (look in the SlideShare comments for the direct URL to an individual presentation), <https://www.slideshare.net/txtbks>

OER publishing

- “Finding the Right Platform: A Crosswalk of Academy-Owned and Open-Source Digital Publishing Platforms” by Cheryl E. Ball, Corinne Guimont, and Matt Vaughn, <https://hcommons.org/deposits/item/hc:59231>
- Publishing Curriculum is free to everyone in Canvas (Open Education Network), <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/377173>
- “Authoring Open Textbooks” (Rebus Community and Open Education Network), <https://press.rebus.community/authoropen>
- “The Rebus Guide to Publishing Open Textbooks (So Far)” (Rebus Community), <https://press.rebus.community/the-rebus-guide-to-publishing-open-textbooks>
- “Open Education Self-Publishing Guide” (BCcampus), <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/?uuid=1d31f3b7-dd9f-4f47-97eb-430afb45ead6&contributor&keyword&subject=Guides>
- “Open Textbook Toolkit” (University of Toronto), <https://opentext.onlinelearning.utoronto.ca>

OER customization

- Open Author tool (OER Commons) lets you combine text, pictures, sound, files, and video, <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring-overview>
- “Modifying an Open Textbook: What You Need to Know” (Open Education Network), <https://press.rebus.community/otnmodify>

Accessibility

- “Accessibility Toolkit – 2nd Edition” (BCcampus), <https://opentextbc.ca/accessibilitytoolkit> (includes [Checklist for Accessibility](#))

- Accessible textbooks in the BCcampus Open Textbook Collection, <https://open.bccampus.ca/browse-our-collection/find-open-textbooks/?lists=accessible>
- Accessibility evaluations in the Cool4Ed C-ID/Course Materials (select Discipline and C-ID/Course from drop-down menus to see if individual eText has accessibility evaluation), <https://www.cool4ed.org/course-materials>

Resources for marking free/low-cost course materials in registration system

- “A Course Marking Roadmap: Recommendations to Guide the Development and Implementation of Open and Affordable Course Marking for the Benefit of Students, Faculty, and Institutions” (Midwestern Higher Education Compact), https://www.mhec.org/sites/default/files/resources/MHEC_Course_Marking_Roadmap_070824.pdf
- Texas Toolkit for OER Course Markings (a living guide), <https://libguides.uta.edu/txttoolkit>
- Contacts at other universities (and which registration systems they use — may not be up to date), https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Yr_KnJXm1ubfUVjnP1kwe6vbEULiqzaCWtCcVCRO2ao/edit?copiedFromTrash#gid=594183565
- How University System of Georgia is doing it, <https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/resources/banner-attributes>
- “Evaluating Oregon’s Open Educational Resources Designation Requirement” (Open Oregon), <https://openoregon.org/evaluating-oregons-open-educational-resources-designation-requirement>
- Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative’s Statewide Icon for Zero Textbook Cost Designation (under State Strategies tab), <https://flvc.libguides.com/c.php?g=936415&p=7285788>

Tools used for open pedagogy and OER publishing

- Pressbooks (available open source or through an annual plan), <https://pressbooks.com/our-products>
- Hypothesis (an open-source annotation tool), <https://web.hypothes.is>
- H5P (open-source tool for creating interactive content), <https://h5p.org/content-types-and-applications>
- LibreTexts’ Interactive H5P Learning Object Repository, <https://libretexts.org/platforms/studio>
- H5P OER Hub, <https://h5p.org/oer-hub-coming>
- PhET interactive simulations for science and math, <https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulations/filter?sort=alpha&view=grid>
- TablePress (open-source tool for interactive tables), <https://tablepress.org>
- TimelineJS (open-source tool for building interactive timelines), <https://timeline.knightlab.com>
- StoryMapJS (open-source tool for telling stories on the web that highlight the locations of a series of events), <https://storymap.knightlab.com>

Networks

- SPARC Open Education Forum listserv and monthly calls – open to all, <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/sparc-library-oer-forum>. Contact aishah@sparcopen.org with questions or subscription issues.
- Community College Consortium for Open Educational Resources (CCCOER), <https://www.cccoer.org> and email list, <https://www.cccoer.org/community-email>. CCOER also sponsors the Regional Leaders of Open Education Network (RLOE), <https://www.cccoer.org/rloe>
- Open Education Network – offers consortial, institutional, and allied memberships, <https://open.umn.edu/oen>
- OpenStax Institutional Partner Program, <https://openstax.org/institutional-partnership>
- Rebus Community offers a platform for global collaboration on OER creation, <https://rebus.community>
- Creative Commons Global Network, <https://network.creativecommons.org>
- Open Education Global, <https://www.oeglobal.org>
- GO-GN Global OER Graduate Network, <https://go-gn.net>
- State Wide Leaders in OER (list maintained by Rebel Cummings-Sauls), <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1x0JE6JXXHtbECJLIWstCh7RIPISICNpG3qBRa-K24DY/edit#gid=0>

OER conferences/summits

- CCCOER maintains a list of upcoming events at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ALTdRKF1V7o_HgKOYEvHDliBDXKYnB67Nk5MIHfAjFo/edit#gid=0
- Tips for organizing an OER summit (Lumen Learning), <https://lumenlearning.com/oerevent>