

MEMORANDUM

West Virginia
Higher Education
Policy Commission

Andrew A. "Drew" Payne III
Chair

Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D.
Chancellor

www.wvhepc.edu

TO: Provosts and Registrars
Four-year and Two-year Institutions

FROM: Dr. Corley F. Dennison, III
Vice Chancellor Emeritus



DATE: November 22, 2021

Ref: **Agreed Procedures for Compliance with Legislative Mandates Regarding Open Educational Resources**

West Virginia
Council for Community
and Technical
College Education

Christina Cameron
Chair

Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Ph.D.
Chancellor

www.wvctcs.org

Thank you all for meeting with the HEPC/CTCS on November 9 and November 17, 2021, to discuss implementation of HB 2853 mandating expansion of Open Education Resources (OER) for West Virginia public colleges and universities. We agreed that each campus would implement a system to identify OER courses in the semester course schedules. Specifically:

- For fall 2022 course schedules, each campus will at the minimum, publish a list of OER courses being offered that semester in the semester course schedule and in a location easily accessible to students. Campuses that can ID individual OER courses at this point in time are encouraged to do so.
- For Spring 2023 course schedules, each campus will ID individual OER course offerings in the semester course schedule and initiate efforts to make students aware of the OER course designations.
- The current definition for Open Educational Resources Courses is \$75.00 (dollars) or less for instructional materials. Technical costs such as proctors or a campus mandated lab fee are not included as instructional materials. Open Educational Resources (OER) will be used as the term to designate low cost and no cost courses. This definition will be reviewed from time to time.
- This legislation mandates an annual report to the West Virginia Legislature. The first report is due on June 30, 2022. This report shall include but not be limited to the number of OER courses being offered, the number of students taking OER courses, the individual saving per student in OER courses and the aggregated savings for all students in OER courses. Savings costs shall be determined using the campus bookstore price for the traditional textbook.
- The HEPC/CTCS Data and Policy Office shall meet with institutional research representatives from the various campuses during the spring 2022 semester to create and/or refine reporting procedures related to this legislation.
- This group agreed to meet again during the spring semester of 2022 to review processes and discuss continued implementation of this statute.

1018 Kanawha Blvd., East
Suite 700
Charleston, WV 25301
304-558-2101 (phone)
304-558-1011 (fax)

Two longer term goals were discussed:

- For two-year institutions, create full OER degree programs. Referred to as “Z” degrees, these degree programs utilize open educational resources for every class in the program curriculum.
- For four-year institutions, create a pathway where students could take all general education courses as open educational resource offerings.

Thank you again for meeting with us. As the program moves forward, we also want to examine such factors as completion and retention rates for OER courses compared to traditional textbook courses. In the meantime, we look forward to working with you during the implementation phase of this legislative mandate.

C: Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Chancellor
 Mr. Matt Turner, Executive Vice Chancellor for Administration
 Dr. Randall Brumfield, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
 Dr. Christopher Treadway, Vice Chancellor for Community and Technical College System