

Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grants Request for Proposals (RFP) Released June 2016 Rounds Six, Seven, and Eight

Table of Contents

[Overview](#)

[Description of Awards](#)

[Grant Categories](#)

[Funding](#)

[Required Activities](#)

[Required Proposal Elements](#)

[Processes](#)

[Proposal Submission](#)

[Timeline](#)

Overview

The State of Georgia's Fiscal Year 2017 budget includes funding to support [Affordable Learning Georgia](#) (ALG), a USG initiative which focuses on reducing the costs of textbooks and the enhancement of [GALILEO](#), Georgia's Virtual Library and ALG's parent initiative. A key strategy of ALG is to provide grant-supported opportunities for USG faculty, libraries, and institutions to transform the use of expensive textbooks and learning materials into the use of open, free, and affordable learning materials.

The Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Grants are intended to:

1. Pilot different approaches in USG courses for textbook transformation including adoption, adaptation, and creation of Open Educational Resources (OER) and/or identification and adoption of materials already available in GALILEO and USG libraries, and/or identification and adoption of other no-cost digital materials.
2. Provide support to faculty, libraries, and their institutions to implement these approaches.
3. Lower the cost of college for students and contribute to their retention, progression, and graduation.

Three Requests for Proposals were released previously:

- Round One, issued August 2014, which received 48 proposals, resulting in [thirty grant awards to 19 USG institutions](#) to support adoption and use of no-

- or low-cost learning materials in USG courses in Spring semester 2015 in amounts of \$10,800 each.
- Round Two, issued October 2014, which received 78 proposals, resulting in [27 grant awards to 16 USG institutions](#) to support adoption and use of no-or low-cost learning materials in USG courses in Summer and Fall semesters of 2015 and Spring Semester of 2016 in amounts ranging from \$10,800 to \$30,000 each.
 - Rounds Three through Five, issued May 2015, which received a total of 104 proposals, resulting in [52 grant awards to 21 USG institutions](#) to support adoption and use of no-or low-cost learning materials in USG courses from Summer Semester 2015 to Spring Semester 2017 in amounts ranging from \$10,800 to \$30,000 each.

For more about Affordable Learning Georgia and the impact that textbook prices can have on student success, see <http://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org>.

Description of Awards

This RFP addresses three cycles of submission and review for which the same criteria apply.

Two levels of funding are available based on the scale of the project proposed:

- **Standard-Scale Transformation:** Textbook transformation projects within one or more courses or sections with under 500 students enrolled on average per academic year total.
 - **\$10,800 maximum award**
 - **\$5,000 maximum per team member**
 - **\$800 for travel and overall project expenses**
- **Large-Scale Transformation:** Textbook transformation projects within one or more courses or sections or department-wide adoptions with 500 or more students enrolled on average per academic year total.
 - **\$30,000 maximum award**
 - **\$5,000 maximum per team member**
 - **\$800 for travel and overall project expenses**

Proposals can address any course; proposals that address courses in the [Top 100 USG Undergraduate Courses](#) are encouraged.

Grant Categories

No-or-Low-Cost-to-Students Learning Materials

Proposals in this category will address faculty replacing their existing textbook in a specific course with no-or-low-cost-to-students learning materials. No-Cost-to-Students Learning Materials can include but are not limited to the following:

- Adoption, adaptation, and/or creation of Open Textbooks, Open Courseware, and/or other Open Educational Resources. Sources include [MERLOT](#), [Cool4Ed](#), [OpenStax CNX](#), [Open Textbook Library](#), [Saylor Academy](#), and [Lumen Learning](#).
- Adoption of materials already available in [GALILEO](#) and USG libraries.
- Low-cost homework platforms to accompany affordable learning materials, such as [WebAssign](#) and [Sapling Learning](#).
- Any of these in combination.
- Costs to students should not exceed \$35.00 total.

OpenStax Textbooks

The USG has a partnership with Rice University's [OpenStax College](#), which offers students free textbooks that meet scope and sequence requirements for most courses. These are peer-reviewed texts written by professional content developers.

With proposals in this category, faculty can adopt a book for a turnkey classroom solution or modify it to suit their individual teaching approach. Free online and low-cost in print, [OpenStax College](#) books are built for today's student budgets. Projects implementing OpenStax College textbooks will receive additional technical assistance from OpenStax College staff. OpenStax partners with a number of no-or-low-cost online homework system providers as well as offering print-on-demand versions of their textbooks.

Interactive Course-Authoring Tools and Software

Proposals in this category have a dual focus, in which no-or-low-cost materials are implemented/created through the use of interactive course-authoring tools. Such tools help faculty to create engaging learning experiences (multimedia, adaptive learning, quizzes, etc) for access through the Learning Management System (D2L Brightspace.) Many of these tools offer integration with the LMS gradebook and student performance analytics. Costs to students should not exceed \$35.00 total.

Proposers in this category are strongly encouraged to attend a series of authoring tool webinars starting this August. Dates are forthcoming and will be released live in the [ALG Newsletter](#).

Specific Top 100 Undergraduate Courses

The list below represents courses in the [Top 100 Undergraduate Courses list](#) that have not had an ALG-funded implementation of affordable materials previously.

Project proposals within these specific courses will receive preference in administrative reviews.

Specific Top 100 Undergraduate Courses

Course Title	Course Number(s)
Abnormal Psychology	PSYC 2102, 2104, 2165, 2201, 2211, 2225, 2230, 2400, 2621, 3023, 3050, 3125, 3140, 3143, 3150, 3200, 3230, 3265, 3280, 3322, 3330, 3350, 3400, 3530, 4401, 4430, 4701
Art Appreciation	ARAP 1100, ART 1100, ARTC 1100, ARTH1000, ARTS 1000, 1101, 1113, 1301, 2000, 2001, 2213
Astronomy of the Solar System	ASTR 1010
British Literature I & II	ENGL 2120, 2121, 2122, 2174, 2231, 2232, 2299, 3110, 3120
Business and Corporate Finance I & II	BUSA 3150, FI 3300, FIN 4220, FINA 3101, FINC 3100, 3131, 3132, 3155, 3400, 3511, 4220, 4440, MGNT 3125, MGMT 2210
Business Information Systems	BISM 2601, 3100, BUSA 2101, 2503, 3130, CISM 2130, 4130, MGIS 4900, MGMT 4205
Comparative Culture	PERS 2001, IS 3600, HUMN 4471
Computer Science I & II	CSCI 1301, 1302
Computing for Engineers	CS 1371, CSCI 1371, ENGR 1371, 1731
Criminology	CJCR 3200, CRIM 2000, 2010, CRJU 2004, 2105, 2215, 2316, 2410, 2411, 2601, 3100, 3200, 3424, 3600, 4431, SOCI 3350, 3424, 3810, 4111, 4431, 4432
Differential Equations I & II	MATH 2270, 2306, 2403, 3000, 3010, 3020, 3100, 3107, 3211, 3223, 3230, 3260, 3301, 3303, 3310, 3313, 3340, 3411, 3422, 3502, 4100, 4265, 4293, 4340, 4363, 4406, 4440, 4680
Drawing I-IV	ARST 1031, 1050, 1070, 2032, 3021, 4032, ART 1007, 1008, 1010, 1011, 1101, 1102, 1150, 2150, 2212, 3100, 3131, 3213, 4100, 4214, ARTF 1010, 1011, ARTH 3103, 3103L, 4103, ARTS 1000, 1010, 1011, 1111, 1112, 1610, 1611, 2010, 2011, 3130
Elementary German I	GERM 1001, 1002, GRMN 1001, 1002
Elementary Spanish I & II	SPAN 1001, 1002
Engineering Statics	COE 2001, ENGR 2001, 2115, 2120, 2200, 2201, 2205, 2210, 2214, 2605, ENGT 2124, 3101, PHYS 2454, 3001
Environmental Biology	BIOL 1102, 1110, 1230, 3101
Film History	COMT 3050, FILM 2700, 3200, 3210, LMC 3254, MDST 3301, 3302
Financial Management	BUSA 3103, 3200, FIN 3350, FINA 3000, 3001, MGT 3062, FINA3102, MGHC 4410
Foundations of Numbers and Operations	MATH 2008

Fundamentals of Computer Applications	AENT 1802, BUSA 2201, CIS 1000, CISM 1130, 2101, CSC 1010, CSCI 1130, MINF 2201, PHYS 2100
Genetics	BIOL 2100, 2344, 2354, 3000, 3130, 3200, 3201, 3216, 3220, 3300, 3301, 3400, 3501, 3621, 3700, 3900, 3900, 4110, 4200, 4211, 4254, GENE 3200
Global Business Practices	BCOM 4283, BUSA 3000, 3145, 3200, INTS 3090S, MGMT 4175, MKTG 3420, 4476, 4500
Global Issues	POLS 2401
Human Communications	COMM 1100, 1109, 2203, COMS 1100, SPCH 1000
Intermediate Spanish I & II	SPAN 2001
Interpersonal Communication	COM 3376, COMM 1500, 2010, 2100, 2105, 2110, 2205, 2300, 3300, 3600, COMS 3040, 3335, CRJU 1130, ITDS 2727, RHET 3215, SPCH 2650
Introduction to Anthropology	ANTH 1102
Introduction to Business	BUSA 1105
Introduction to Engineering Materials	ENGR 2000, MET 3132, MSE 2001
Introduction to Film	CMS 2100, COMT 3000, FILM 1005, 1010, 2080, 2331, LMC 2500, MDST 1110
Introduction to Human Geography	GEOG 1101
Introduction to Landforms	GEOG 1113
Introduction to Philosophy	PHIL 2010
Introduction to Psychology of Adjustment	PSYC 2101, 2105, 2295
Introduction to Weather and Climate	GEOG 1112
Introductory Geosciences & Physical Geology	GEOL 1121
Life and Earth Science for Teachers	ISCI 2001
Marketing Management	MGT 3300, MK 3010, MKTG 4137, 4170, 4185, 4198, 4253, 4750, 4780, 4870, 4890, 4990
Media, Culture, and Society	SOCI 3090, CMS 4800, MDIA 4350, JOUR 4510, POLS 3125, SPCH 4510, FILM 4810, JOUR 4810, COMM 2332, SPCH 2050
Medical Terminology	AHSC 1101, ALHE 1120, CLAS 1030, ES 2300, HINF 2000, 3312, HLTH 2510, ITDS 2106, KNHS 2300, MGHC 2220, NURS 1000, 2004, PERS 2485, RESP 2110, RTHP 3199, SCI 1000, SCIE 1003, SNHP 3010, VETY 1812
Microbiology	BIOL 1913, 2010, 2050, 2115, 2211, 2215, 2215, 2240, 2261, 2611, 3100, 3250, 3310, 3321, 3340, 3380, 3500, 3540, 3880, 4180, 4234, 4390, MIBO 3000, 3500, MLTS 2218
Operations Management	BUSA 3120, MGMT 3106, 3165, 3320, 3610, 4000, 4600, MGNT 3185, 3300, 3430, 3610, 3615, 4151, MGS 4700, MGT 3200, 3501

Organic Chemistry I & II	CHEM 1152, 2000, 2040, 2041, 2101, 2102, 2211, 2212, 2241, 2242, 2301, 2302, 2311, 2312, 2400, 2411, 2412, 2501, 2511, 2642, 3111, 3112, 3301, 3302, 3341, 3342, 3361, 3362, 3401, 3402, 3410, 3411, 3412, 3422, 3441, 3442
Organizational Behavior	BEHV 4000, MGMT 3155, 3510, 4100, 4102, 4110, 4115, 4669, MGNT 3134, 3250, 3605, MGT 3101
Physical Geography	GEOG 1111
Physical Science for Teachers	ISCI 2002
Principles of Accounting I & II	ACCT 2101, 2102
Principles of Financial Accounting	ACCT 2100, 2101
Principles of Management	BUSA 2200, 2201, 3000, MGMT 3000, 3001, 3100, 3115, 3141, 3600, 3661, MGNT 3130, 3600, MGT 3150, MNGT 3051, 3103
Principles of Marketing	BUSA 2205, 2240, 3100, MARK 3000, 3010, MGNT 3135, MKTG 3000, 3100, 3101, 3115, 3120, 3131, 3161, 3175, 3700, 3800, 3803, MMGT 2110
Stellar and Galactic Astronomy	ASTR 1020
Statistical Analysis for Business	BUSA 2100, 3213, 3110, ECON 3402, 3406, MGMT 3101, MSIT 3000
Survey of Economics	ECON 1100, 1101, 1500, 2100, 2105, 2201
Survey of World History I & II	HIST 1110, 1111, 1112
Western Civilization I & II	HIST 1111, 1112, 1121, 1122, 2201
World Religions	FYE 1410, PHIL 1103, 2110, 2130, RELG 1100, 1200, 2101, RELI 1111, 1301, 2100, RELN 1100, RELS 2001, 3270, SOSC 4900

Funding

Funding is not a direct stipend to the team members, but rather goes to the institution to cover the team member's time (salary/release time/overload/replacement coverage), project expenses including related department needs, and travel expenses. \$800 is specifically designated for at least two team members to attend the required in-person kickoff meeting, and the remaining amount in this \$800 can be used on overall project expenses such as supplies, other travel, or technology.

The proposing team must coordinate as necessary with their departments and institutional sponsors to determine how to handle the distribution, including amounts, release time/overload/salary/replacement as well as semester(s). This provides the maximum flexibility to the institution and the team in terms of how many people and what types of skills are needed, amount of compensation vs. replacement of teaching load, and timing in terms of semesters of preparatory work vs. semesters of adoption.

Funding will be released to the sponsoring institutional office in two parts: 50% on return of the USG-drafted Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the original or modified proposal serving as the statement of work, and 50% on submission of the final report.

Proposals must involve teams of at least teams of 2 or more of any of the following: faculty, faculty librarians, instructional designers, subject matter experts, editors, graphic designers, or others as needed.

Two levels of funding are available:

- **Standard-Scale Transformation:** Textbook transformation projects within one or more courses or sections with under 500 students enrolled on average per academic year total.
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Required Activities

Expected activities in all categories include training in the chosen project resources, open licensing as necessary, any textbook creation or adaptation required, and course redesign as necessary for the transformation.

Other required activities:

- Institutional sign-off on Service Level Agreement (SLA) provided by the University System Office, using the project proposal as a statement of work
- Institutional invoice to USG along with the signed SLA in order for funds to be disbursed
- Attendance by at least two team members at a required kick-off training/implementation meeting
- Completion of project status report for every semester of the implementation
- Completion of a final project report, including provision of data on impact on student success and a course schedule with resource links
- New works must be created under a [Creative Commons License](#) and will be made accessible to the public through the [GALILEO Open Learning Materials repository](#). This requirement does not include proprietary features of authoring platforms.
- Participation as needed in ALG-related communications

Required Proposal Elements

Proposals are submitted via the Georgia Institute of Technology's online grant management software, InfoReady Review:

<https://gatech.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1755383>

Once a user account is established, submissions may be worked on in the system and saved until complete and ready for submission. The submission process includes the following required elements:

- Completed Proposal Submission Form
- Completed Proposal Narrative
- Letter of support
 - This letter must be provided from the sponsoring area (unit, office, department, school, library, campus office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs etc.) that will be responsible for receipt and distribution of funding.
 - For multi-institutional teams, letters of support must come from each institution's sponsoring area.
 - Letters must reference the sustainability of the project.

Processes

The Georgia Institute of Technology's Center for 21st Century Universities (C21U) assists with the review process, working with a team of reviewers selected by ALG who will evaluate the projects in a peer-review process using **this rubric**. The peer-review process is followed by a final administrative review by ALG.

Proposals will be evaluated on the feasibility and reasonableness of the action plan and adherence to the proposal guidelines, as weighted in the rubric. Follow-up questions or interviews may be requested of applicants. Please note that awardees' applications will be made available to all USG institutions.

Team members will participate in facilitated project initiation processes, including a required in-person meeting ([see Timeline](#)) to kick-off project implementation and review processes, timelines, and training on content as needed for grant category. Teams will complete semester status report forms online and a final written report, to include requested measures of impact on student success and experience as well as any other elements provided in final report template.

Teams will be expected to be available for information sharing about their experience in future ALG information sessions, in the ALG newsletter and other publications, on the ALG website, and in related presentations and materials.

Institutional sponsors will be responsible for fund disbursement, including expense and travel reimbursement. Budgets will be supported by State funds and therefore institutions spending project money must ensure compliance with State, BOR and institutional policies and procedures.

Proposal Submission

All proposals must be submitted via InfoReady Review at:
<https://gatech.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1755383>

Once a user account is established, submissions may be worked on in the system and saved until complete and ready for submission.

Documents for Proposal Submission

All proposals must be submitted via Georgia Tech's CompetitionSpace at:

<https://gatech.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1752228>

Once a user account is established, submissions may be worked on in the system and saved until complete and ready for submission.

[Proposal Submission Instructions](#)

[Proposal form and narrative for offline drafting and review](#)

Submitters must copy and paste their final draft into the online form for submission.

Note: The only way to submit the proposal is through the online form.

[Evaluation Rubric](#)

Submitters can use the rubric to review their proposals to be sure all required elements are in place.

Timeline

- June 2016: Release of RFP for Rounds Six, Seven, and Eight
- July 2016, August 2016, ~~November~~ 2016: Webinar(s) for RFP Review, Q&A

Round	Teaching Semester	Application Deadline	Notification Date	Required Kick-Off Meeting
Six	For courses taught in: Spring 2017 Summer 2017 Fall 2017	July 31, 2016	August 22, 2016	September 12, 2016
Seven	For courses taught in: Spring 2017 Summer 2017 Fall 2017	September 4, 2016	Sept. 26, 2016	October 17, 2016
Eight	For courses taught in: Summer 2017 Fall 2017	December 11, 2016	Jan. 9, 2017	January 30, 2017

- Per Round:
 - First disbursement, on receipt of a simple contractual timeline tied to deliverables with the original or modified proposal serving as the statement of work
 - Required kick-off training/implementation meeting for at least two team members
- Fall Semester 2016: Begin implementation processes by grant recipients as outlined in proposal
- Fall Semester 2016 through Fall Semester 2017: Status reports as required by timeline, one at the end of each semester of implementation
- Fall Semester 2016 through Fall Semester 2017: Production release in USG course offered to students
- Spring Semester 2017 through Fall Semester 2017: Final report as required by timeline, at the end of the first semester offered to students

[Return to Top](#)