Open Educational Resources Grants

The Affordable Instructional Resources (AIR) initiative invites faculty to apply for grant funding to explore the use and creation of open educational resources (OER) for undergraduate courses.

OER are free educational materials that provide faculty the freedom to adapt and distribute course materials without restrictions and at no cost to students. In addition to grant funding, librarians will be available to provide faculty with individualized curriculum and technology support for identifying, using, adapting, and publishing open educational content.

Funded by the Office of the Provost and the Libraries, these grants will support faculty who are interested in using, adapting, and remixing open access research and educational materials in order to reduce course materials costs for students and highlight the pedagogical power of OER. No experience with OER is necessary to apply. Applications are due April 15, 2019.

Available Grants
- $2,500 grant for revising some or all of a course textbook and/or course packet with an existing OER
- $5,000 grant for developing and publishing OER in an academic discipline

Criteria
- Potential savings on course materials costs for Northwestern students
- Significance of OER to the course’s objectives
- Ability to be implemented in the 2019-2020 academic year
- Willingness to provide feedback on using OER to the Northwestern community

Benefits of using OER
- Open licensing allows instructors to have greater control over course content
- Librarians can help reformat text and add multimedia elements to course materials
- Provides opportunities to explore open pedagogy for scholarly publication and presentation

Application Materials
One application per course. Applications must be submitted online. The application requires a brief project narrative (500-word limit), where we ask you to address the following:
- How you plan to incorporate an OER into your course
- How you will spend the grant funds to support this work
- How you will evaluate the success of the OER in your class
- The number of students typically enrolled in the class, an estimate of the current cost of course materials, and an estimate reduction in course cost by using an OER

To apply, visit https://air.northwestern.edu/oer-grants/

Questions?
All interested faculty are encouraged to email Chris Diaz, Digital Publishing Librarian, with any questions or preliminary feedback on project ideas: chris-diaz@northwestern.edu