Open Educational Resources

Texas Senate Bill 810 and **Texas Education Code Section 51.451** address **Open Educational Resources (OER)**, including a definition:

> "Open educational resource" means a teaching, learning, or research resource that is in the public domain or has been released under an intellectual property license that permits the free use, adaptation, and redistribution of the resource by any person. The term may include full course curricula, course materials, modules, textbooks, media, assessments, software, and any other tools, materials, or techniques, whether digital or otherwise, used to support access to knowledge.

The bill requires institutions to publish a textbook list with a course schedule on a website that provides a search function that identifies courses using OER. Certain information for each course material must be provided:

- Retail price
- Author(s)
- Publisher or provider
- Most recent copyright date
- ISBN
- Whether the material is OER
- Any associated fee or charge

With diversity/equity/inclusion at the forefront, Texas has enacted additional legislation promoting OER, such as Section 28.009 College Credit Program of the Texas Education Code that

> Any agreement, including a memorandum of understanding or articulation agreement, between a school district and public institution of higher education to provide a dual credit program described by Subsection (b-1) must (9) require the district and the institution to consider the use of free or low-cost open educational resources in courses offered under the program;

CTC is committed to adopting OER with a goal of offering Z (zero cost) degrees for some disciplines. We are close to having OER options for all of the Core Curriculum categories. These categories are listed in the CTC catalog. OER are usually available online and in other formats, to include PDF, and with a low cost print option. The print versions may be purchased from the CTC Bookstore. Some of CTC's courses use free resources that are developed by instructors or provided by CTC through licenses, but these do not comply with the OER definition. The designator **No Textbook** is used at the CTC Booklist to identify these courses.

If you are interested in creating a course using an OER, DEET can help you identify possible resources. Further information about OER is available at https://online.ctcd.edu/oers.cfm.

For a quick check of courses that are developed with OER, refer to the **Online Catalog** at the DEET website: https://online.ctcd.edu/catalog/catalog_index.cfm.

The **Digital Higher Education Consortium of Texas**, or **DigiTex**, offers a plethora of resources on OER. Check out the repositories, free, on-demand faculty training, webinars, and other events. See https://go.acadeum.com/digitex.

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