

TAG, YOU'RE OER!

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SBHE Policy 462

Instructional Materials Access & Affordability Overview



Policy Purpose and Affordability

Aims to improve student access to course material cost information to support affordability and informed decisions.

Transparency at Registration

Students see course material costs at registration, enabling informed financial decisions.

Academic Freedom and Quality

Encourages cost savings without compromising academic quality or the faculty's instructional choice.

Consistency and Measurement

Standardized definitions across institutions support consistent course markings and data reporting.

Why Course Marking Matters

Role of Course Marking

Course marking is the key mechanism linking policy goals to student course selection and affordability transparency.

Student Enrollment Impact

Clear course markings help students anticipate material costs, reducing stress and preventing course drops.

Institutional & Faculty Benefits

Course marking enables data-driven affordability assessment and highlights cost-saving instructional choices without limiting faculty freedom.

SBHE Strategic Plan

Policy requires public availability of aggregated OER low-cost/no-cost textbooks on the SBHE dashboard.



Course Marking Definitions

NOCOST

a course that uses free OER or free alternatives and does not require the purchase of a textbook or alternative materials.

NOMAT

a course that does not require any course materials. This includes course materials provided by the instructor or distributed through the student learning management system at no cost to the student.

LOWCOST

a course that uses free OER to eliminate conventional textbook costs but requires less than \$75 for required course materials.

LOWMAT

a course that uses a conventional textbook or software but requires less than \$75 in cost for required course materials.

The Importance of Accuracy



Student Benefits

Accurate course marking reduces uncertainty and financial risk, helping students persist and enroll confidently.

Institutional Compliance

Precise marking ensures compliance with policies and maintains integrity in public reporting of course data and metrics.

Faculty Academic Freedom

Accurate marking preserves faculty freedom by reflecting instructional choices transparently without judgment or confusion.

Ethical Responsibility

Marking is an ethical commitment to honesty and clarity that supports access, equity, and student success goals.

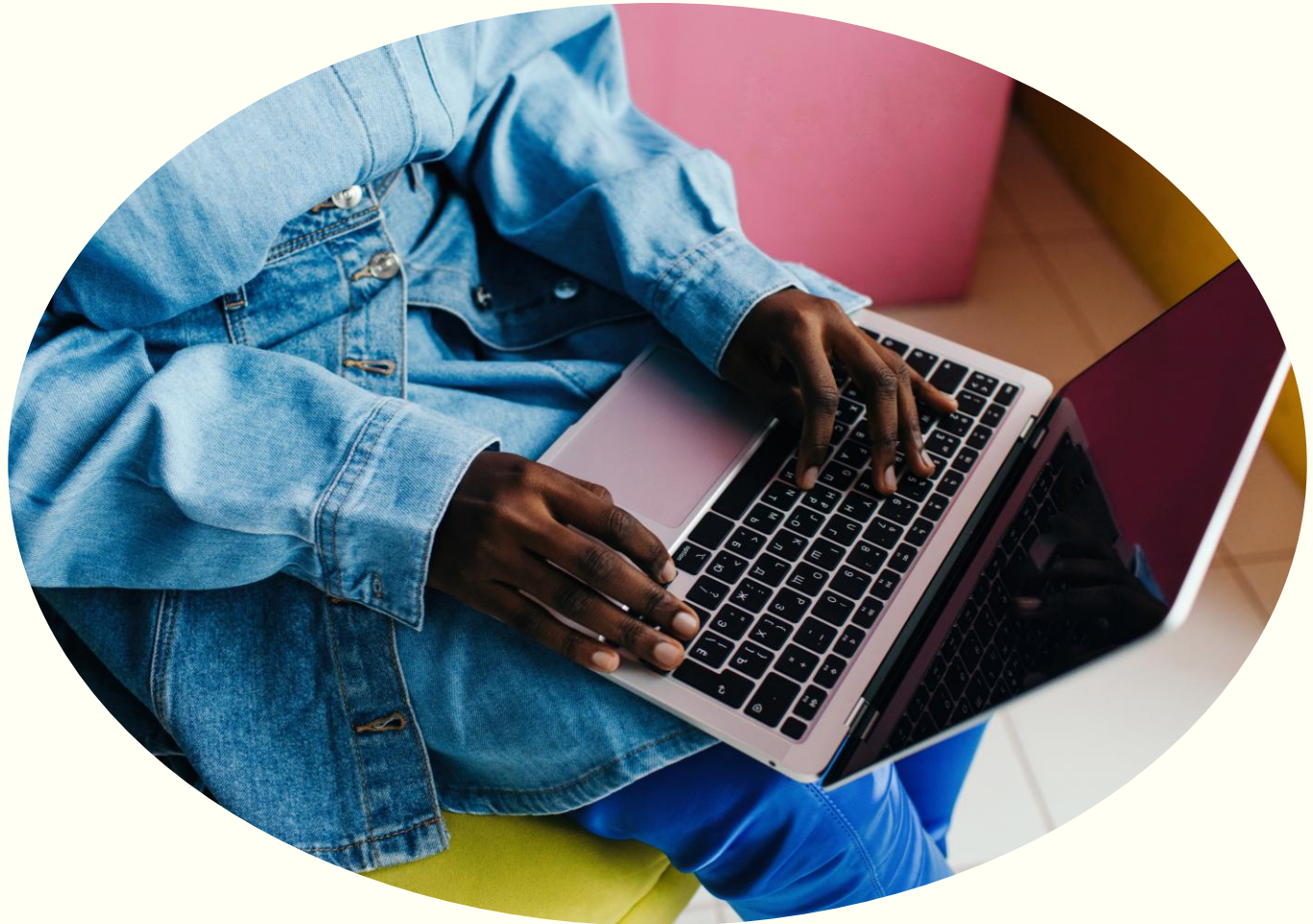
Student Side Demonstrations!

Stage environment

- Schedule Planner

Campus Connection

- Class Search and Enroll



Student Side Instructions: Schedule Planner

1. Log in to Campus Connection.
2. Click the Manage Classes tile.
3. Choose Schedule Planner in the lefthand menu.
4. Choose your institution from the list and click the Continue button.
5. Choose the term and click the Save button.
6. Click the Add Course button.
7. Click on the Search By OER Courses tab.
8. Under Attribute, choose Open Educational Resources.
9. Choose Value or click the Subject dropdown to see which subjects are available.
10. Click the Course dropdown to view the courses.



Student Side Instructions: Campus Connection

1. Log in to Campus Connection.
2. Click the Manage Classes tile.
3. Choose Class Search and Enroll in the lefthand menu.
4. Choose the term.
5. Search by subject (CSCI in our example)
6. Scroll down on the lefthand menu to the Class Attribute section.
7. Under Attribute, check the box next to Course Materials/No Cost Educational Resources.
8. Choose the course.
9. Click the Class link.



Faculty Demonstration!

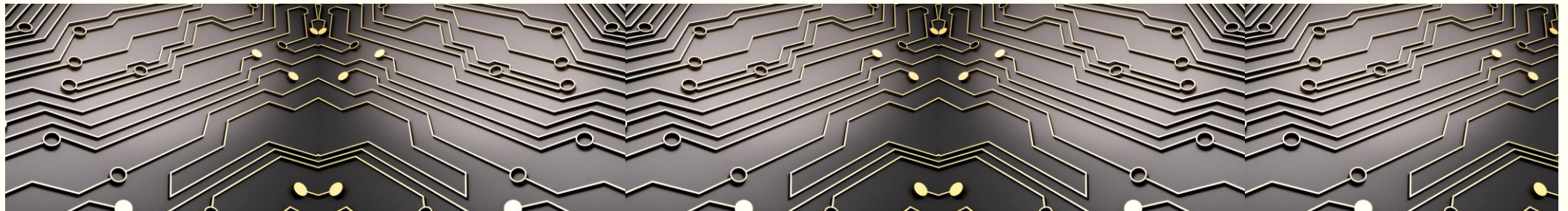
Campus Connection

- Search tab under Advisor Center



Faculty Instructions: Campus Connection

1. Log in to Campus Connection.
2. Click the Advisor Center tile.
3. Click the Search tab.
4. Choose the term.
5. Choose Course Materials in the Course Attribute dropdown.
6. Choose the Course Attribute Value or click Search button to see all the courses which have open educational resources.
7. Under Attribute, check the box next to Course Materials/No Cost Educational Resources.
8. Click the Section link.



Guest Demonstration!

Campus Connection

- Catalog/Class Search



Guest Instructions: Campus Connection

1. Click the Campus Connection Guest Page.
2. Click the Catalog/Class Search tile.
3. Choose Class Search and Enroll in the lefthand menu.
4. Choose the Institution and Term.
5. Search by or type subject (CSCI in our example).
6. Click Search button.
7. Click the Section link.



Questions?



Tag us!

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