

LOW TEXTBOOK COST (LTC)

Open Educational Resources (OER) Co-coordinators:

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A textbook case of price-gouging

% increase



Source: Bureau of Labour Statistics

TEXTBOOK COSTS

- Since the 1970s, textbook costs increased 800%
- Direct relationship between textbook costs and student success rates
- Grossmont's Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) Initiative:
 - Reduce financial barriers
 - Increase student success, access, equity
 - Comply with SBI 359



LOWERING TEXTBOOK COSTS

- Not all courses have acceptable no-cost options
- Low Textbook Cost (LTC) initiative:
 - Recognize faculty efforts to reduce textbook costs
 - Allow students to make informed course registration decisions
 - Help students find affordable options
 - Comply with textbook cost transparency laws and resolutions

TEXTBOOK COST RESOLUTIONS

- ASCCC resolutions 13.01 and 03.04: “low-cost” courses
- Next steps: Disclose ALL course costs on the class schedule
- Higher Ed. Act, section 133 (revised, 2010)
 - “...disclose...International Standard Book Number and retail price information of required and recommended college textbooks and supplemental materials for each course listed in the institution’s course schedule...”
- ASCCC resolution 20.02: Ensure Course Cost Transparency for Students
- Assembly Bill 2624 (CA, proposed 02/22)

LOW TEXTBOOK COST (LTC)

- “Low-cost” varies by college, population, location
- CSU’s Affordable Learning \$olutions (AL\$): <\$50
- Most CCCs: \$40
- SDICCA:
 - Palomar: \$40
 - MiraCosta: \$40
 - Mesa: \$40
 - City: \$40



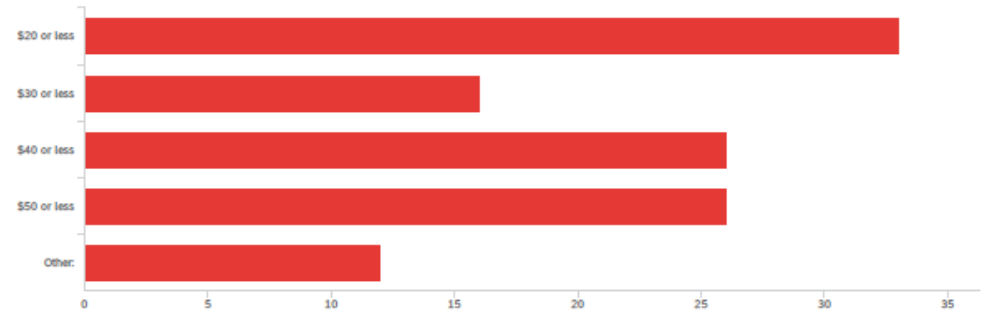
LOW TEXTBOOK COST (LTC)

Grossmont and Cuyamaca surveys (Fall 2021)

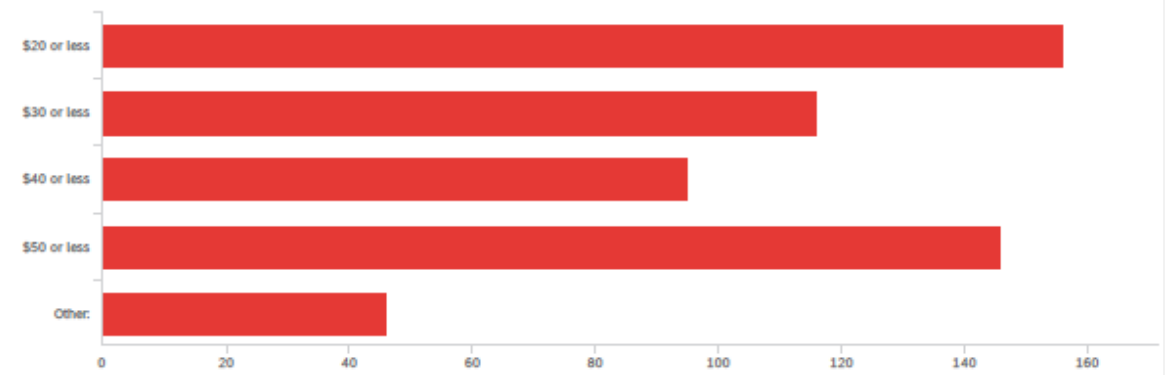
Faculty: 32 (CC), 79 (GC)

Students: 75 (CC), 347(GC)

Q5 - If you were to modify a course you teach to be a Low Textbook Cost course, what would you consider "low cost" for a NEW* textbook or book in your discipline? *We are focusing on new textbook costs because used prices fluctuate and rentals are short-term.



Q2 - If you took a class that was labeled as a "Low Textbook Cost" class, how much money would you expect to pay for a NEW textbook in that class?



LOW TEXTBOOK COST (LTC)

What would you consider “low cost” for a new textbook?

Grossmont

RANKING	STUDENT RESPONSES	FACULTY RESPONSES
#1	\$20 (\$40 mean)	\$50 (\$40 mean)
#2	\$50	\$20
#3	\$30	\$40
#4	\$40	\$30
#5	\$104 (avg. write-ins)	\$74 (avg. write-ins)

Grossmont & Cuyamaca

RANKING	STUDENT RESPONSES	FACULTY RESPONSES
#1	\$20 (\$40 mean)	\$20 (\$40 mean)
#2	\$50	\$40 (tied)
#3	\$30	\$50 (tied)
#4	\$40	\$30
#5	\$95 (avg. write-ins)	\$67 (avg. write-ins)

GROSSMONT-CUYAMACA LTC
(SPRING 2023)

WEIGHT	CRITERIA	\$\$
30%	Student Survey Results	\$20 (\$40 mean)
20%	Faculty Survey Results	\$20 (\$40 mean)
40%	SDICCCA colleges	\$40
10%	Statewide trends	\$40