Inclusive Access.org

What is Inclusive Access?

The cost of college textbooks has increased sharply over the last several decades, creating challenges for students and faculty. Inclusive Access is a textbook sales model that adds the cost of digital course content into students' tuition and fees. While the adoption of this model addresses some challenges, it is also creating many new ones. Higher education leaders should fully examine the facts and implications of automatic textbook billing.

What questions should administrators ask?

- 1. What methodology is used to calculate the advertised student savings? Does it account for used books?
- 2. How do base inclusive access prices compare to the digital prices advertised on the publisher's websites?
- 3. Is it possible to permanently purchase this content, rather than renting it perpetually?
- 4. Is it possible to guarantee that base prices will not increase faster than inflation in the future?
- 5. How are content providers fulfilling their obligation to inform faculty about textbook prices under 20 USC §1015b?

- What steps are necessary to ensure campus Inclusive Access programs are compliant with 20 USC §1015b?
- 7. If students exercise their right to opt out, will they be able to purchase the same materials on their own?
- 8. Is it possible for the library to purchase a copy of the material to put on reserve? If not, why not?
- 9. How long do students have access to digital content? Can they purchase a discounted print copy to keep?
- 10. What data do inclusive access materials collect from students and faculty, and how is it used by vendors?

Where can you get more information?

InclusiveAccess.org is a community-driven initiative to raise awareness of the facts about automatic textbook billing. Visit our website for more information and resources.

