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Academic Material Program (AMP)

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Auxiliary Services

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Hello Faculty,

The University Bookstore is now collecting textbook orders for the Summer and Fall 2024 semester.

An important program announcement included below:

The University Bookstore is moving to an Equitable Access delivery method for course material. This new Academic Materials Program (AMP) provides all undergraduate students access to their required academic materials for \$239.99 per semester charged to their student account.

Required textbooks across all undergraduate courses will participate in this program and be provided in digital format through the student's Brightspace Course Shells. Textbooks and course materials that are not currently digitized will be included in the program and picked up at the bookstore. (e.g. lab manuals and other "consumables"). Optional, recommended and out-of-print titles are not included in the program and will not be stocked at the University Bookstore, but will be available for special order.

To keep course material affordable, AMP only includes required materials. The materials you choose to order still have an impact on student affordability and we appreciate your help in contributing to this benefit for our students.

Note: If you feel your course requires the use of print material when digital is available, please note this on your adoption request.

The AMP program applies to the **Fall** and **Spring** semesters **only**. **Graduate courses, Summer, and Winter courses** will remain the same current Inclusive Access model, being billed individually.

Please submit your order request by the following deadlines:

Fall semester due by June 1st, 2024. For courses not requiring course materials, please select "No Text Required" so that you do not continue to receive emails from our system. To ensure availability of materials and student success, it is imperative that your textbook adoption is received by the specified due dates.

Fall Undergraduate Courses: Submit course material adoptions as usual. Digital availability will be researched, and title(s) will be provided digitally when available. If digital format is not possible, title(s) will be provided to participating undergraduates in hard copy.

Graduate and Summer Courses: Submit course material adoptions as usual. If you are interested in having materials provided to students digitally on Brightspace, please select "Yes" for "Interested in Inclusive Access."

REQUEST:

We will be sending a follow up email in August requesting faculty, who find it appropriate, open their course shell one week prior to classes starting.

This will afford students the opportunity to review material and make an informed decision about participation in the Academic Material Program (AMP)

Please use the personalized link below to submit your textbook order.

Equitable Access Textbook Program general information

What is the Equitable Access program?

The Equitable Access Program gives students access to all required textbooks and course materials for one predictable rate (\$239/semester), regardless of their course of study. This program also affords faculty with the ability to maintain academic freedom to choose the material that is exactly right for their class – without concern for the cost to the student.

How students get digital materials: Delivered to a student's Brightspace course shells by the first day of classes. Physical materials and codes must be picked up at University Bookstore.

Billing: The student will be billed for this on their student account in July (fall semester) and January (spring semester), allowing them to use scholarship funds, loans, financial aid, credit card or any other form of payment accepted at UMaine.

Why is UMaine moving in this direction?

University Bookstore understands the pressure of shopping for, affording and accessing academic content for classes. National trends are showing digital delivery as a preferred choice by both students and faculty. The Bookstore, in tandem with faculty choices, has been transitioning from traditional paper delivery to digital Inclusive Access content over the past two years. Nearly 60% adopted by Fall 2022. We project an upward trend toward 75-80% for fall 2024.

What is the current average price of course materials right now?

According to Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) National Center for Educational Statistics the average annual cost for academic materials for UMaine is \$1,000, which breaks down to \$500 per semester for 2023-24.

Perpetual access

Perpetual access will be provided whenever possible in the following ways:

- When a faculty member notes this is desired as part of the course
- When the publisher provides access in digital form (there may be an additional fee)

Note: University Bookstore will always work with students who decide they wish to retain this material as perpetual after the class is completed.

Can a student opt out?

Yes. Students can choose to completely opt out of this program. Students may not choose a partial opt out.

Will authors continue to receive royalties?

Royalty dispersal is between the publisher and the author and does not impact Equitable Access.

How many UMaine faculty members have adopted digital content?

Over 70% of faculty at UMaine have used digital content and Brightspace delivery in the last academic year. We anticipate 75-80% adoption for Fall 2024.

Are paper texts still available with new model?

Yes. Hard copy materials are always an option for faculty to choose as part of this program.

How will this program be communicated

- New website
- Marketing consisting of postcards, print items, digital boards and email (students and faculty)
- Social media (Bookstore's Instagram)
- Admissions events, including New Student Orientation, and in tandem with Financial Aid

Other institutions currently operating Equitable Access Programs:

Bookstore director Dean Graham is on a committee with Verba VitalSource

- Appalachian State University
- California State Polytechnic
- University-Pomona
- Cornell University
- University of Arizona
- University of California-Davis
- University of California-Los Angeles
- Louisiana Christian University
- Tiffin University
- Wayland Baptist University

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We welcome questions! Please contact Dean Graham, University Bookstore, dean.graham@maine.edu