

# 2021 Regents OER Grant Program

## Call for Proposals

### Grants description

The 2021 Regents OER grant program provides faculty at Iowa State University, University of Northern Iowa, and University of Iowa with opportunities to enhance teaching and learning by integrating Open Educational Resources (OER) into their courses. OER are defined as “teaching, learning, and research resources that are free of cost and access barriers, and which also carry legal permission for open use” ([SPARC, n.d.](#)). These resources can include textbooks, lab books, videos, interactive course modules, and more.

This grant will provide awards to project teams hoping to create new open educational resources for their courses. In addition to financial awards, successful applicants will receive intensive training on OER development. This training will include an OER development “sprint” in September 2021, where grantees will work intensively on their projects over the course of a two-day workshop.

The Regents OER grant program was created with support from the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund), which was established in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by Congress in 2020.

### Who is eligible to apply?

- Teams of **2 to 4** individuals, including at least one individual who teaches a credit-bearing course at an Iowa Regent institution.
- Preference will be given to projects that meet *one or more* of the following criteria:
  - impact a large number of students,
  - replace expensive commercial course materials,
  - include cross-institutional teams, where the resources developed will be used at more than one Regent university, and/or
  - thoughtfully incorporate elements of diversity, equity, and inclusion into their proposal. This may involve describing how the project will: include diverse perspectives, serve populations disproportionately affected by textbook costs, or ensure that the OER developed is accessible for all students.

For proposal review criteria, refer to the [Regents OER Grant Program Rubric \[PDF\]](#).

## How do I apply?

While preparing your proposal, project leads must meet with one of the Regents OER Grant librarians to discuss the project. You can schedule a review by emailing the grant team at [regentsoer@gmail.com](mailto:regentsoer@gmail.com) or by contacting the librarian from your institution listed under “Contacts.”

Download or make a copy of the [Regents OER Grant Proposal Template](#) in Google Docs. This file is also linked on each institution’s grant website.

Applicants can submit their completed proposal via the [Regents OER Grant Submission Google Form](#) no later than **August 2, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. CST (noon)**. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.

## Award levels

Award Type	Award Funding	Project Description
<b>Type A: Ancillary Project</b>	Up to \$1,500 per team member	Funds the development of presentation slides, test banks, lecture videos, and/or other ancillary materials to accompany an existing open textbook.  Consult your institution's librarian contact and/or OER website (see below) for assistance locating existing open textbooks in your discipline.
<b>Type B: Textbook Project</b>	Up to \$7,500 per team member	Funds the development of a new open textbook, lab book, or handbook that will serve as the core text for a course.

Awards will be paid in two installments: one half will be disseminated upon completion of the 2-day training session in September 2021 and the remainder will be disseminated upon completion of the spring project report (due by May 31, 2022).

Grant recipients who complete the 2-day sprint and workshop will each receive an additional \$350 stipend for their time.

## Expectations of grant recipients

### *Training*

Recipients will complete a paid two-day training and sprint to be held in the fall 2021 semester. The scheduling for this training will be flexible to account for all grant recipients' schedules, but teams should make every effort to attend together.

- **Day 1 Training in OER** (approx. 5 hours): teams will meet with support staff, discuss their projects, and receive general training on the production, publication, and use of open educational resources.
- **Day 2 An OER Sprint** (approx. 5 hours): teams will outline, discuss, and begin development on their OER grant projects, with the support of the librarians coordinating the Regents OER Grant Program.

### *Project Publication*

OER created through the grant will be published under a [Creative Commons license](#) that allows modification.

Open textbook projects will be published in one of the Regent institutions' Pressbooks book publishing platforms ([Iowa State University Digital Press](#) or [University of Iowa Pressbooks](#)), and Ancillary projects will be required to have a copy in one of the Regents institutional repositories ([UNI ScholarWorks](#), [ISU Digital Repository](#), or [Iowa Research Online](#)).

### *Reporting*

Recipients will be expected to complete one or more informal check-in surveys to provide updates regarding their project progress and needs throughout the academic year.

Two reports will be submitted by each project team: the spring project report will be due at the completion of the grant's timeline (by May 31, 2022), providing an overview of their project's development. The project completion report will be due at the conclusion of the project's piloting in a full course. These reports may be compiled as a single document for projects completed prior to the spring report deadline.

## Contacts

### *University of Northern Iowa*

- Contact: [Anne Marie Gruber](#), Instruction & Liaison Librarian
- Website: [Open Educational Resources Guide](#)

### *Iowa State University*

- Contact: [Abbey Elder](#), Open Access & Scholarly Communication Librarian
- Website: [ISU Regents OER Grant Program Webpage](#)

### *University of Iowa*

- Contact: [Mahrya Burnett](#), Scholarly Communications Librarian
- Website: [UI Regents OER Grant Program Library Guide](#)

*This CFP and Proposal Template were adapted from Iowa State University's Miller Open Education Mini-Grant Program.*