



GRANTS

**To support authors in writing
open textbooks**



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Grants | **Categories**

Four categories:

- High impact projects
- Emerging disciplines
- Australian and New Zealand content
- Rebalancing representation

Across all categories, inclusion of Indigenous content written by Indigenous authors is encouraged, including content in or about Indigenous languages. Indigenous authors are strongly encouraged to submit projects on any topic across all categories. Indigenous content must include experience/information that represents Indigenous peoples from Australia and/or New Zealand.



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Grants | **Categories**

High impact projects

Open textbook projects in this category are targeted at first year, high enrolment courses (more than 200 students) in core disciplines.

Priority will be given to textbooks that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Textbook is for a course/s that is/are core in more than one degree
- Textbook can be used in both Australia and New Zealand (ie does not include content that is irrelevant in one country, or includes tailored content for both countries where content must be differentiated for each country, for example, based on local law)
- Textbooks that are designed to replace restrictive, expensive or difficult to access commercial textbooks (including non-traditional textbooks).

Emerging disciplines

Open textbooks in this category have a specialised, novel, relatively fast growing subject area of focus with limited current textbook availability.



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Grants | **Categories**

Australian and New Zealand content

Open textbook projects in this category are focused on Australian and/or New Zealand content in any discipline. Projects incorporating Indigenous knowledge are strongly encouraged.

Rebalancing representation

Open textbook projects in this category are focused on subject matter or include content that aims to redress imbalances related to representation in academic literature, with priority given to ‘own voices’ projects (i.e. textbooks that will be written by authors with relevant lived experience). Projects may focus on any underrepresented cohort, including but not limited to topics of relevance to people who identify as part of the LGBTIQ+ community, people living with disability, and Indigenous people.



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Grants | **Value of grants**

Amount	Available for
\$1,000	Open textbook projects with a single author in any category
\$2,000	Open textbook projects with two or more authors from a single institution (any category)
\$3,000	Open textbook projects with three or more authors from two or more institutions. Projects must be textbooks for first year, high enrolment courses.

Additionally, all projects that are awarded a grant will be allocated two \$250 peer review stipends.



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Grants | **Eligibility**

- Grants are open to academic staff at participating institutions.
- Non-ongoing staff are eligible for grants, however, at least one member of the textbook team must have an academic contract through until the scheduled completion of the book.
- Early career academics are encouraged to submit.



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Grants | Requirements

Recipients will be required to:

- Sign a memorandum of understanding, which will be provided when grants are announced.
- Publish your open textbook on the Collective Pressbooks platform under a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial 4.0 International (CC-BY-NC 4.0) licence allowing others to retain, reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute. (Other Creative Commons licences may be used in some cases; CC-BY-NC is preferred.)
- Seek copyright advice to ensure all content included in the open textbook can be released under a CC-BY-NC licence (or the chosen Creative Commons licence).
- Publish a minimum of four chapters by February 2023.
- Ensure each author listed on the expression of interest contributes to at least one chapter to the textbook.
- Lead, plan, and implement the open textbook project.
- Take responsibility for inputting textbook content on the Pressbooks platform.



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Grants | Requirements

Recipients will be required to:

- Collaborate with and seek advice from institutional library staff, particularly related to copyright and licensing.
- Undergo a peer review process with support from institutional library staff, using the OER Collective peer review process.
- Allow the Council of Australian University Librarians and your university library to use usage data for your open textbook to assist with evaluation of the Open Educational Resources Collective Pilot Project.
- Include both the Collective and your institution's logo on your book cover (in line with the Collective branding guide, which will be provided to recipients).
- Adhere to accessibility standards and guidelines provided by the Collective.
- Attend Academic Authors Community of Practice meetings throughout 2022 where possible, with all authors required to attend the sessions focused on copyright and intellectual property (May) and accessibility and inclusion (July).

Grants | Evaluation criteria

5 points A compelling rationale is provided for the open textbook.

5 points The project is aligned with the category.

5 points There is a realistic plan to achieve the outcomes by the end of February 2023.

5 points The author team has appropriate expertise and experience.

5 points Additional criteria:

One point will be awarded for each of the following criteria. Authors are encouraged to apply even if all of these criteria are not met.

- For all categories:
 - Contains Indigenous content and/or one or more Indigenous authors involved in the project.
 - Potential for significant cost savings for students and institutions.
 - Potential for use across other institutions.
 - Involves authors from more than one institution.
- For: High impact projects; Emerging disciplines; Rebalancing representation
 - Contains local content (Australian and/or New Zealand).
- For: Australian and New Zealand content
 - Textbook can be used in *both* Australia and New Zealand (ie does not include content that is irrelevant in one country, or includes tailored content for both countries where content must be differentiated for each country, for example, based on local law. Incorporation of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori knowledge, perspectives and or language is encouraged). (Note: all submissions in this category must be suitable for use in Australia or New Zealand. However, in recognition that they will be of relevance to a wider audience, textbooks that can be used in both countries will receive a point against this criteria.)



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Grants | **Timeline**

- Expressions of interest open: 31 March 2022
- Expressions of interest close: 29 April 2022
- Recipients announced: 5 May 2022
- Progress update: 30 September 2022
- Funds released (based on satisfactory progress update): 31 October 2022
- Minimum of first four chapters published: 28 February 2023



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Grants | **EOI process**

- Two part EOI form:
 - Part 1: To be completed by authors
 - Part 2: To be completed by OER Collective institutional contact in the library
- EOI form to be submitted online



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Grants | **Tips for writing your EOI**

- Abstract:
 - Provide sufficient detail in your abstract to demonstrate that your project is well thought through
 - Use your abstract to demonstrate alignment with the grant category
- Rationale:
 - Consider the aims of the Collective (ie collaboration; local and Indigenous concept) and show how your project helps to realise them
 - Consider the benefits of your project beyond your institution - invest some time in finding other institutions that teach a similar course
 - Provide multiple arguments for the need for your book. Consider student equity, content gaps, inaccessibility of existing textbooks
- Authors:
 - Tell us clearly why each author is the right person to contribute to this book – what is their experience in the space?
 - For early career academics, draw on industry experience as evidence of suitability to author the book
- Timeline:
 - Adapting from one or more sources might make your project more achievable
 - You don't need to write the entire book by February 2023 – just four chapters to start



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Grants | **Tips for writing your EOI**

Increase your overall score (and the funding your eligible for):

- Find someone to collaborate with
- Include local content
- Make sure your book is relevant for both Australia and New Zealand
- Ensure Indigenous perspectives are represented
- Demonstrate your textbook will be useful for other institutions



**Talk to
library staff**



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Grants | **More information**

