

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**Consent Agenda**  
**April 19, 2023**

**OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND READING/TEXTBOOK OFFICE**

- I. Approval to begin the Administrative Procedures Act process: To revise the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook: Rules and Regulations for the Adoption, Distribution, Care and Use of Textbooks and Instructional Materials in Mississippi* in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1, Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-19, and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25

Executive Summary: Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-19, the State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations for the purchase, care, use, disposal, distribution, and accounting for all books to be furnished under the terms of the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook: Rules and Regulations for the Adoption, Distribution, Care and Use of Textbooks and Instructional Materials in Mississippi* and to promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper administration of the textbook handbook. The publication is designed to provide guidance and information for textbook publishing companies, public and non-public schools of Mississippi.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

# Textbook and Instructional Materials ADMINISTRATION HANDBOOK

---

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

For the Adoption, Distribution, Care, and Use  
of Textbooks and Instructional Materials in  
Mississippi



MISSISSIPPI  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

Ensuring a bright future for every child

**Mississippi Department of Education**

Office of Academic Education

Textbook Office Office of

Instructional Materials and Library

Media

Post Office Box 771

Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771

Tel (601) 354-7543 | Fax (601) 354-

7590

Published September 2018 Spring 2023

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

~~Carey M. Wright~~Robert P. Taylor, Ed.D~~Michael D. Kent~~ | INTERIM STATE  
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

~~Nathan Oakley, Ph.D~~Donna H. Boone, Ph.D. | CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

Tenette Smith, Ed.D. | BUREAU DIRECTOR, Office of Elementary Education and Reading

~~Chauncey Spears~~Elizabeth Simmons, Ed.S. | OFFICE DIRECTOR, ~~Textbook Office~~Office of  
Instructional Materials and Library Media

The Mississippi Board of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education, the Mississippi School for the Arts, the Mississippi School for the Blind, the Mississippi School for the Deaf, and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability in the provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. The following office has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies of the above-mentioned entities:

Director, Office of Human Resources  
Mississippi Department of Education  
359 North West Street  
Suite 211  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201  
(601) 359-3511

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## SECTION ONE: TEXTBOOK REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.....6

I.	Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	7
II.	Acquisition/Requisition: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	8
III.	Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials .....	11
IV.	Petition Process: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	15
V.	Funding: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	17
VI.	Accounting and Condition of Textbooks: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	18
VII.	Textbook Use: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	22
VIII.	Textbook Inventory Management System: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools .....	23
IX.	Process to File a Complaint .....	26
X.	Forms: Non-Public Schools and Special State Schools .....	27

## SECTION TWO: PUBLISHER REGULATIONS.....28

I.	Introduction .....	29
II.	Publisher Regulations and Procedures .....	29
III.	Textbook Materials .....	31
IV.	Representatives from Publisher Companies .....	33
V.	Publisher Companies' Presentations .....	34
VI.	Time Between State Adoption and Caravan.....	35
VII.	Regulations for Caravan .....	36
VIII.	Contracts with the State of Mississippi .....	37
IX.	Violations .....	38
X.	Process to File a Complaint .....	39



## INTRODUCTION

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-19, or the Textbook Law, authorizes the Mississippi Board of Education (MBE):

- a) To promulgate rules and regulations for the purchase, care, use, disposal, distribution and accounting for all books to be furnished under the terms of this chapter and to promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper administration of this chapter.
- b) To adopt, contract for, and make available for purchase, cash or credit, basal, supplementary or alternative textbooks through twelve (12) grades as provided in the school curriculum, or for any other course that it may add thereto.
- c) To determine the period of contract for rated and adopted textbooks which shall not be for less than four (4) years nor more than five (5) years, with the right of the board, in its discretion, to renew or extend such contract from year to year for a period not exceeding two (2) additional years and to determine the conditions of the approval or forfeiture of a contract and such other terms and conditions as may be necessary and not contrary to law.
- d) To have complete power and authority over additions and amendments to textbooks, advertising for bids and the contents thereof, including auxiliary materials and workbooks, advertising on the protective covers of textbooks, bids and proposals, prices of textbooks, specimen copies, cash deposits, selection and adoption, distribution, fumigation, emergencies, selling to others, return of deposits, forfeiture of deposits, regulations governing deposits, renovation and repair of books, requisition, transportation or shipment of books, and any other acts or regulations, not contrary to law, that may be deemed necessary for furnishing and loaning free textbooks to the school children, as provided in this chapter.

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) is dedicated to providing all students access to high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) to support instruction in schools. Mississippi's defines HQIM as materials that are externally validated, comprehensive and aligned with the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. This material includes engaging-knowledge-building complex text and books – both digital and print, multimedia material, rigorous problems, and aligned assessments. HQIM can be used to identify students' areas of strength and opportunities for growth and are sequentially mapped and designed to prepare students to graduate ready for college and the workforce, educative for teachers, and accessible to students with differentiated needs.

When appropriated, funds for the procurement of textbooks must be used to purchase items that meet the definition of a textbook as stated in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1: "Textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction, which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject."

This publication is designed to provide guidance and information for textbook publishing companies, public schools, non-public schools, and special state schools of Mississippi.

Textbook and instructional material issues not covered in this handbook should be directed to the MDE Textbook Office.

SECTION ONE

Textbook Regulations  
and Requirements

## SECTION ONE

---

# Textbook Regulations and Requirements



## I. Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program: Public Schools, Non- Public Schools, and Special State Schools

The district superintendent should appoint a staff member to serve as the Textbook Coordinator. The Textbook Coordinator should supervise the local adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional material and completes reports required by the MDE Textbook Office. The Textbook Coordinator should oversee the correct inventory for the district in the Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS). If a different person manages TIMS, the person should be noted as the TIMS Contact. The following is a job description that may be used by the district to outline the Textbook Coordinator's responsibilities:

The District Textbook Coordinator will assist with the following duties:

### A. SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Local Textbook Selection Committee FORM C
  - ☐ Submitted online at no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>
2. Report of the local adoption results
  - ☐ Due 35 days after the local hearing Intent to Adopt is due to the regional textbook company no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> during an adoption cycle
3. Report on end of year closeout in TIMS no later than ~~June~~ 15<sup>th</sup> the first Friday in August, which includes:
  - ☐ Active Inventory,
  - ☐ Surplus Inventory, and
  - ☐ Request to Dispose of Unusable Textbooks
- ~~4. Form to recommend State Rating Committee members~~
  - ~~☐ Due mid-June.~~

### B. ADOPTION PROCESS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

- ~~1. Ensure that the Local Selection Committee is informed about the local hearing and can attend the meeting. Inform the Local Selection Committee about instructional material hearings~~
- ~~2. Work with the Local Selection Committee members so that they understand how to evaluate textbooks and that they work together as a committee. Provide the Local Selection Committee with access to the textbook depository INTENT TO ADOPT FORM and an example of a digital adoption ballot~~
- ~~3.~~ Work with the Local Selection Committee to make sure "Official Local Adoption Examination Copies" are returned to the depository. individual publishers/vendors
- ~~3-4.~~ Provide professional learning to the Local Selection Committee on how to use the virtual review site (ms.classgather.com) and Mississippi Instructional Materials Matter site to evaluate



### instructional materials

- ~~4.5.~~ Meet with the Local Selection Committee ~~after the hearing to complete the ballot to complete the INTENT to ADOPT FORM and return it to the regional textbook depository~~

## **C. ORDERING PROCESS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL**

1. Assist with the allocation of funds needed by each school.
2. Review the purchase orders before sending to the depository.
- ~~1.3.~~ Make sure the policies are followed as related to the purchase of textbooks.
- ~~2.~~ Review the purchase orders before sending to the depository.
- ~~3.~~ Make sure the policies of the local board are followed as related to the purchase of textbooks.

## **II. Acquisition/Requisition: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools**

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1 ensures that state-adopted textbooks shall be distributed and loaned free of cost to the children of the free public schools of the state and of all other schools located in the state which maintain educational standards equivalent to the standards established by the MDE for the state schools as outlined in the *Mississippi Non-Public School Accountability*.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION OF NON-PUBLIC-AND SPECIAL STATE SCHOOLS**

When a non-public school has verified compliance with all applicable non-public school standards, the Office of Accreditation will submit a request to the SMBE to award an accredited status to the school.

Once the school has received approved accreditation status, a letter requesting to receive textbooks should be submitted. The MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will provide the appropriate forms to document that the school operates in a non-discriminatory manner in its admission and enrollment practices. The SMBE will review this data and determine if the school should be approved to receive textbooks. ~~After the approval of the MBE, the documents will be forwarded to the Northern U.S. District Court for final approval.~~

Textbooks may be procured with state or local funds in a variety of ways. Listed below are the approved methods and procedures:

## **A. STATE-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS**

### **1. Public Schools**

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-5 states that “Textbooks” shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic

presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject; this would include both print and digital formats. Textbooks that are on the state-adopted list may be purchased directly from the publishers' depositories. All requisitions will need to be submitted by the local school district to publishers' depositories in accordance with the procedures established by that entity and communicated to school districts. Requisitions for textbooks are **NOT** to be sent through the MDE.

Textbooks and instructional materials that are listed on the state-adopted list may also be purchased directly from the publisher. School districts are reminded that the textbook law requires that a district pay no more for a textbook procured directly from the publisher than the price stated in the current state-adopted catalog.

## 2. Non-Public Schools

Textbooks and instructional materials that are on the state-adopted list may be procured through the MDE from the ~~publishers' depositories~~regional depository. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media Textbook Office **must shall** approve all requisitions.

~~Textbooks and instructional materials that are listed on the state-adopted list may be procured through the MDE Textbook Office.~~ Non-public schools wishing to use this procurement provision **must shall** complete and submit a **TEXTBOOK ORDER FORM** to the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of for processing. The form may be obtained at ~~Schools MDE Textbook Website.~~ are reminded that textbook Textbook law requires that a ~~district school~~ not pay more for a textbook procured from the publisher than the price stated in the current state-adopted catalog.

## B. NON-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS

### 1. Public Schools

Textbooks and instructional materials that are not state-adopted may be purchased by the local school district directly from the appropriate publisher or vendor. Approval **is not** required from the ~~SMBE~~ or the MDE ~~Textbook office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media prior to purchase. However, districts are strongly encouraged to develop a review and evaluation plan to ensure that quality textbooks are being purchased. The purchase of textbooks and instructional materials must follow the state purchasing procedures if textbooks are not under state contract.

### 2. Non-Public Schools

Textbooks that are not on the state-adopted textbook and instructional material list may be purchased by the non-public schools through the MDE directly from the ~~publisher or vendor~~regional textbook depository. Schools desiring to utilize this provision should submit any such request on the **TEXTBOOK ORDER FORM**, which can be downloaded at the MDE



Textbook Website. While there are no review requirements associated with this procurement method, schools are encouraged to develop a review and evaluation plan to ensure that high-quality textbooks and instructional materials are being purchased.

Districts are strongly encouraged to develop a review and evaluation plan to ensure that high-quality, evidenced-based textbooks and instructional material are being purchased, and that the materials address the depth and breadth of the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards.

If this option is selected, MDE procurement policies MUST be followed (see Section One, H.C.).

State accredited, non-public schools must document the selection process for non-adopted textbooks and comply with state procurement policies and procedures when procuring non-adopted textbooks with EEF funds. According to student procurement policies and regulations, multiple vendors shall be considered along with the costs of products and services offered by those vendors.

## C. PURCHASING PROCEDURES

To ensure that internal controls are in place to document the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, public and non-public schools are required to follow the state bid requirements established by Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-13. Textbooks that are **adopted and approved** by the SMBE are placed under state contract and are exempt from the bidding process.

### 1. Bidding Requirements

- a. 0 – \$5,000: Purchase from any vendor with no bidding.
- b. \$5,000.01 – \$750,000: Obtain two (2) or more written quotes. Facsimiles and emails with PDF quotes are acceptable.
- c. Over \$750,000: Must allow 3½ to 4 weeks for bid to be awarded and must be advertised.
  - SPublic schools that purchase non-adopted textbooks in excess of \$750,000 are required to maintain sealed bid documentation for three (3) years after the audit report is released. If a purchase is in litigation, the files shall be maintained until resolved.
  - The documentation is required to support award decisions, assure approvals, compliance with regulation, and sustain any reviews or litigation. Documentation should include but is not limited to the following: bid list, bid opening sign-in sheet, bidders' spreadsheets, witness signature, requisition, notice to Contract Procurement Center, public notice to newspaper, bid specifications, original bids, bid envelopes, bid addendum, proof of advertisement, bid evaluation, award by the school, or letter from the MDE Textbook OfficeOffice of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

**Note: The bid dollar limit does not include shipping or freight costs.**

**~~2. Sole Source Textbook Purchases~~**

~~Textbooks that are sold by one supplier or one source may be purchased using the Mississippi Procurement Procedures.~~

**D. PAYMENT FOR TEXTBOOKS**

All purchases and subsequent payments for textbooks are between the local school districts making the purchase and the regional depository, the publisher, or the vendor as may be appropriate.

**Cash Purchases (Non-Public)**

If a non-public school desires to use funds other than state textbook funds for the procurement of textbooks, all such requisitions and/or purchase orders should be submitted directly to the regional depository, publisher, or used textbook vendor.

**III. Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials**

**A. ORDERING TEXTBOOKS: PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media does not complete textbook orders for public school districts. All orders should go to the regional depository, publisher, or used textbook vendor. Inventory should be entered into the Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0) as soon as it is processed and received.

**B. STAMPING, MARKING, AND RETURNING TEXTBOOKS: PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

- Do not stamp, mark, or write the ~~school's~~school's name, number, or student name in textbooks until it is positively determined that the textbooks received are the ones ~~that were actually~~ ordered and needed for the particular course. The regional depository normally will does not accept ~~for~~ return, textbooks that have been stamped or marked.
- Schools are reminded that any unused textbooks should be returned to the regional depository, publisher, or vendor from which they were purchased.
- Textbooks purchased during a fiscal year ~~must~~shall be returned during the same year of purchase in order to receive credit from ~~School Book Supply Company of Mississippi~~the regional textbook depository. Any textbooks that are not returned by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the fiscal year shall not be returned for credit. These textbooks, if not to be used by the purchasing school district, must be placed on the surplus textbook list.
- Textbooks ~~may no longer~~cannot be returned to ~~Mississippi School Book~~



Supply/Textbook Depository Company of Mississippi regional textbook depository for credit if they have been marked or bar-coded. Opened kits may not cannot be returned. Any textbook that has come off is no longer on contract on June 30<sup>th</sup> cannot be returned after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### C. HANDLING INCOMING TEXTBOOK SHIPMENTS: NON-PUBLIC AND SPECIAL STATE SCHOOLS

It is suggested that each school and district develop and follow a plan to ensure all incoming textbook shipments have been received in an orderly manner.

#### **1. School's Responsibility**

~~Each school district should designate someone at each school to serve as Textbook Custodian. Usually this person is the principal, but it could be a teacher or other school employee.~~

#### **2.1. Textbook Custodian's Coordinator's Responsibility**

The Textbook Custodian-Coodinator is accountable for all textbooks shipped to the school. Therefore, he/she should personally accept and check all incoming shipments of textbooks requisitioned through the district's textbook program. If the Textbook Custodian-Coodinator cannot attend to this personally, the responsibility should be delegated to someone who is thoroughly competent and has a comprehensive understanding of the textbook procurement process.

#### **3.2. Checking Freight Shipments**

When the freight company secures a signed delivery receipt without any exceptions being noted on it, the shipping company is automatically released of its liability for losses in the shipment. Therefore, it is imperative that the total number of cartons delivered to the school be accurately counted and recounted before a shipment is accepted.

#### **4.3. Shortage in Freight Shipments**

The number of cartons missing should shall be plainly marked on all copies of the delivery receipt before they are signed. Do not sign for any shipment unless a copy of the receipt is provided for the school's files. Do not sign for a complete shipment contingent upon the shipper's promise to locate the missing cartons later.

#### **5.4. Damaged Cartons**

If there is evidence that any cartons have been damaged by rough handling or in any other way, damages should shall be noted on all copies of the delivery receipt. If it is later found that some of the textbooks have been damaged, the regional depository should be notified so that the textbooks may be replaced. If a school is purchasing from a publisher or other vendor, then the appropriate business should be notified.

#### **6.5. Checking Textbooks**

The depositories with state-adopted textbooks in Mississippi will regional depository or publishers shall include with each shipment, a copy of the packing slip that will indicate only the textbooks contained in the shipment. Backorders and textbooks shipped previously will not be listed on the

packing slip. As soon as possible, after the receipt of the shipment, all cartons should be opened and checked against the packing slip. As each carton is opened, please make sure that the name of

the school appears on each box. If the shipment does not match the packing slip, the textbooks may belong to another school.

#### **7.6. Difference in Packing Slip and Shipment**

If it is found that the number of textbooks ordered does not agree with the number and title listed on the enclosed copy of the packing slip, recheck to verify the original count. If this recheck shows the same error as the first count, please immediately notify the appropriate publisher or the regional depository's depository of the discrepancies. If the error relates to an overage, do not take any disposition action until so instructed by the regional depository or publisher.

#### **8.7. Backorders**

If any title on the requisition is out of stock at the regional depository or with a publisher, it will be noted on the green invoice that will be received ~~from the publisher's depository approximately one week~~ after the textbook shipment. Any title that is on backorder will be shipped as soon as stock becomes available. If a school desires to cancel an existing backorder, the ~~appropriate publisher's depository or vendor~~ regional depository or vendor should be notified. However, when a school ~~district~~ experiences a lengthy delay in the filling of a backorder, the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~ Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media ~~should shall~~ be contacted and notified. PUBLIC SCHOOLS-This action is essential since requisitions no longer flow through the MDE Textbook Office.

#### **9. ~~Green Invoices~~**

~~The green invoice provides proof that the requisitioned textbooks have been properly received in the local school; therefore, each green invoice must be on file at the local district office. When a determination has been made that the shipment has been satisfactorily received, the Textbook Custodian should:~~

- ~~i. Public Schools sign each green invoice and return it to the local district office.~~
- ~~ii. Non-public schools or special state schools sign each green invoice and return it to the Textbook Office, Mississippi Department of Education, and P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771. Please return each green invoice soon after the receipt of the textbooks. Do not hold the invoices until the end of the year.~~

### **D. TEACHER EDITIONS AND COMPLIMENTARY-FREE MATERIALS**

It has become common practice for publishers/vendors to provide free ~~complimentary~~ materials, as well as teacher editions, when a school ~~district~~ purchases a publisher's textbooks.

1. Publishers/vendors with state-adopted textbooks are required to provide teacher editions, when available, to accompany the student editions requisitioned by the school ~~district~~. One teacher edition per certified teacher per classroom is required. This requirement includes special



education teachers, advanced placement teachers, and alternative teachers. Publishers/vendors are required to list on the textbook ~~BID~~ **FORM STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS** all ~~complimentary~~ materials along with the terms and conditions under which the materials will be given to the schools. This information is a part of the contract between the MDE and the publisher. This information is listed at [www.mde.k12.org/ESE/TAP-MDE Textbook Website](http://www.mde.k12.org/ESE/TAP-MDE%20Textbook%20Website).

2. School ~~distriet~~ personnel should not ask a publisher to provide materials that are not listed on the company bid. This type of request is a violation of the contract between the MDE and the company. Also, a company representative should not promise items that are not a part of the bid.
3. If a ~~distriet school~~ fails to obtain the promised ~~complimentary free~~ materials, the ~~distriet school~~ should contact the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~ Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. Schools are reminded that publishers/vendors will not be permitted to give away or promise free materials not certified on their **BID FORM STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS**. The provision of free material will be in accordance with the terms and conditions included on the ~~BID TEXTBOOK BID~~ **FORM** and contract.

#### E. LARGE-PRINT AND BRAILLE TEXTBOOKS

~~Large print and Braille textbooks may be obtained through the Mississippi School for the Blind by any school distriet that has students who are visually impaired. Inquiries for large print and Braille textbooks should be submitted to:~~  
~~Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC)~~  
~~1252 Eastover Drive, Adm. Bldg. Rm. 300~~  
~~Jackson, MS 39211~~  
~~Phone: (601) 984-8226~~

~~At the close of the school term, all large print and Braille textbooks must be returned to the Mississippi Instructional Resource Center. They are to be returned through the United States Post Office and marked: **READING-MATTER FOR THE BLIND—FREE—138.32—138.92**. If the package containing the large print and Braille textbooks is labeled in this manner, there will be no cost for the shipping. **DO NOT** ship textbooks back by freight line or UPS.~~

The Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC) is located on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. MIRC is a statewide resource center designed to assist Mississippi's students who are visually impaired with specialized textbooks, equipment, and materials. MIRC operates as a repository for acquired books, equipment, and instructional materials and provides local educational agencies a process to register qualified students through the Federal Quota Fund.

Agencies can order accessible formats of print instructional materials (Braille, large print, and National Instructional Media Access Standards (NIMAS) files for the



creation of digital and audio formats) for students with a qualifying print disability.

At the close of the school term, all large-print and Braille textbooks must be returned to the Mississippi Instructional Resource Center.

Materials can be shipped postage free if mailed by the United States Postal Service. Simply place a label on the box with the following:

“FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND”  
MS Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
MIRC/Admin. Bldg.  
1403 Eastover Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211

Materials and/or textbooks may also be personally delivered to the MIRC by appointment.

#### **F. DISTANCE LEARNING AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks needed for use in distance learning and ~~Advanced Accelerated~~ Placement such as Advanced Placement, Cambridge, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment courses should be purchased by the ~~local~~ school ~~district~~ directly from the regional depository, publisher or vendor of the textbooks.

#### **G. USED TEXTBOOKS**

1. Used textbooks, both adopted and non-adopted, may be purchased from vendors of used textbooks. Approval of the MDE is not required for these purchases. A listing of used textbook companies may be downloaded at [www.mdek12.org/ESE/TAP.MDE Textbook Website](http://www.mdek12.org/ESE/TAP.MDE%20Textbook%20Website).
2. School districts are **not** required to use such companies recommended by the MDE. Each ~~district-school~~ has the discretion and authority to secure its own used textbook company.
3. Used textbooks purchased from used textbook companies will not receive a free teacher edition or any other ancillary materials that are listed as free under state contract. Please be aware that textbooks purchased from used textbook companies may be first editions or first printing and may contain errors.
4. School ~~districts~~ are reminded that defective used textbooks should be discussed with the vendor from which the used textbooks were purchased.

#### **IV. Petition Process: Public Schools, ~~Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools~~**

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-31 contains a provision whereby five or more school boards may petition the SMBE to add a book or series of textbooks to the state-adopted list. If a district so chooses to petition the SMBE, the following policies and procedures should be adhered to:

A. School districts may petition the **SMBE** to allow for the requisition of non- adopted textbooks.

1. Five or more school boards may petition the **SMBE** to add one or more textbooks or series of textbooks to the state adopted list. The **SMBE** will have sixty days to act upon the petition. If it is not acted upon in this time period, the petition shall be deemed as approved.
2. A school board may petition for the requisition of "new and innovative" textbooks that have become available since the last textbook adoption in the respective subject area.
3. Textbooks may be procured through the petition process from ~~School Book Supply Company of Mississippi or directly from the publisher~~the regional textbook depository. Since non- adopted textbooks may now be purchased with state funds, it is no longer necessary to follow the steps of the petition process. However, if the district or districts should choose to go the petition route, the **SMBE** will consider the petition for approval.

B. Consideration shall be given to the following by the local school districts in the submission of petitions under any of the above-named provisions:

1. Each district that submits a petition must secure at least one copy of each textbook included in the petition for review and evaluation purposes. Each district submitting a petition shall select a committee of no fewer than three individuals to review and evaluate each textbook or series included in the petition. These individuals must have expertise in the subject area being reviewed, and at least two of these individuals must be teachers. Each reviewer/evaluator shall utilize and submit a copy of the review rubric used to evaluate the instructional material. Each textbook will be reviewed based on minimum quality indicators, which include but not limited to alignment to the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness standards.
2. Each district submitting a petition shall provide a rationale as to why currently adopted textbooks are not sufficient to meet the needs for the courses for which the non-adopted textbooks are intended.
3. All textbooks requisitioned through this process shall be purchased by the petitioning district. Districts may submit petitions at any time during the school year.
4. Each school district submitting a petition for non-adopted textbooks shall receive approval of its school board prior to submission, and it must state on the petition the date of such board action.
5. Each district submitting a petition request shall state on the petition the quantity of each title petitioned along with information regarding the publisher.
6. Publishers/vendors having textbooks adopted through the petition process must be willing to submit a bid, execute a contract and bond with the state of Mississippi, and provide a stock of textbooks in the regionaleir-



~~Mississippi~~ depository sufficient to meet all reasonable demands. Consequently, school districts must initially determine if the publisher whose textbooks are being petitioned is willing to meet all of these requirements before submitting a petition. Each publisher whose textbooks are petitioned must supply one copy of each student and teacher edition to the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~ Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media to be used for review purposes. If the textbook is subsequently approved by the SMBE, it will be placed on file for review. Contracts entered into with publishers/vendors of successfully petitioned textbooks will have the same expiration dates as all other textbooks in like subject areas.

- C. The MDE shall designate one person, having expertise in the respective subject area(s) for which textbooks are petitioned, to review the petition and the textbook, and recommend to the MSBE the appropriate action to be taken regarding the addition of the textbooks to the state adopted list.
- D. Districts receiving SMBE approval on petitions will be notified promptly, and action will be taken to add the requested textbooks to the state-adopted list as soon as possible.
- E. School districts considering the petition process should be reminded of the following:
  - 1. The petition process requires considerable effort to demonstrate the quality and alignment of the content.
  - 2. The petition must be approved by the local school board.
  - 3. The publisher of the petitioned textbook will need to submit a bid and execute a contract and bond upon approval by the SMBE.
  - 4. State textbook law now permits the purchase of non-adopted textbooks directly from the publisher resulting in a timely delivery if this approach is selected over the petition process.

## V. **Funding: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools**

When appropriated, funds for the procurement of textbooks distributed must be used to purchase items that meet the definition of a textbook as stated in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1: "Textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction, which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject."

### A. **DISTRIBUTION**

#### 1. **Public Schools**

The Mississippi Legislature will annually appropriate funds to the MDE for the procurement of textbooks. The funds are a part of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program. The district will allocate from the annual funds the amount to be used for the purchase of textbooks. All textbook

budgeted funds may be utilized to procure textbooks in accordance with the policies contained in this handbook.

## **2. Non-Public Schools and Special State Schools**

The Mississippi Legislature annually appropriates funds to the MDE for the procurement of textbooks. The funds are distributed to non-public-~~and special-state~~ schools on a per-pupil basis based on the average daily attendance for the entire nine months of the previous school year for grades K-12. All textbook funds may be utilized to procure textbooks in accordance with the policies contained in this handbook. Textbook funds for non-public schools will be issued as credit that may be used to procure state-owned textbooks.

### **B. FREIGHT COSTS**

Each school district and non-public school will be responsible for the payment of the freight costs incurred in the shipment of the textbooks to the local school or district. For non-public schools only, this cost will be charged against the school's allocation.

### **C. CARRYOVER**

All unexpended credit on June 30<sup>th</sup> for a respective **non-public school** will be carried over for the expenditure for state-owned textbooks in the next school year.

## **VI. Accounting and Condition of Textbooks: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools**

### **A. OWNERSHIP**

Textbooks are the property of the local **public-school** districts. Each district must make available for transfer all textbooks that have been declared surplus by the district.

In **non-public schools**, all textbooks are the property of the State of Mississippi and are on loan to the non-public school from the MDE. Each school must make available for transfer all textbooks that have been declared surplus by the non-public school.

### **B. FUNDING SOURCES**

There is no need to differentiate between funding sources such as State, Local, Educational Enhancement, etc., in the maintenance of an inventory. Regardless of the funding, all sources are to be treated the same in regard to the inventory process.

### **C. STORAGE OF TEXTBOOKS**



The school should provide adequate storage or shelving space for safe and accessible textbook storage.

#### **C.D. ISSUANCE OF TEXTBOOKS**

The label on the inside cover of each textbook shall be completed before the textbook is issued to the pupil.

##### **Public Schools**

The school district shall have in place a plan for maintaining adequate records regarding the issuance of textbooks to students. It is suggested that the method of issuing textbooks to students reflect the condition of the book. The parent or guardian should sign that the child has received books. A statement similar to the following should be part of the signature process. "I hereby accept the responsibility of the books listed and for any other books issued to my child during the current school year. If any book is lost, damaged or destroyed, I agree to pay such loss before my child will be entitled to any further books." (See MS AG op., Johnson (Jan 10, 1997).)

##### **Non-Public Schools or Special State Schools**

Duplicate textbooks cards ~~(MT-6)~~ shall be made for all pupils receiving textbooks. These cards shall be completed so that the identity and condition of the textbooks are clearly shown. After the parent's signature has been obtained on the card, the pupil shall be issued the textbook. At the end of the session, upon the student transferring to another non-public school or special state school or at any time ordered by the teacher or the administrative head, all books shall be returned by the pupil. The textbook card shall be signed by the teacher and given as a receipt. The pupil shall present the card upon re-enrollment at the non- public school next attended before any textbooks are issued to him/her.

#### **D.E. RETURNING TEXTBOOKS FROM INELIGIBLE NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

If any non-public school fails to maintain accreditation approval by the **SMBE**, it will be necessary for all state-owned textbooks to be returned. Procedures for the return of state-owned textbooks from ineligible non-public schools are outlined below.

1. All non-public schools that are ineligible for participation in the state-owned textbook program shall return all state-owned textbooks to the MDE or its designee.
2. Non-public schools whose eligibility expires by the December meeting of the **SMBE** of any year shall have until the following June 30<sup>th</sup> to complete the return of its state-owned inventory to the MDE.
3. Each ineligible non-public school will be supplied no later than May 1<sup>st</sup> with a listing of its current textbook inventory as reflected by the most recently submitted inventory plus an inventory of all textbooks procured since the last inventory was filed. Any discrepancies between the inventory of the school and that of the MDE must be justified in writing.

4. During the month of July after the loss of eligibility of the non-public school, MDE staff will be available to assist each non-public school in inventorying and packaging textbooks for return to the MDE. As the textbooks are packed, a detailed accounting will be made jointly by the school and the MDE staff. **Under no circumstances should the non-public school pack and return textbooks without the involvement and assistance of MDE staff.**
5. Once the textbooks are packed and reconciled with the MDE inventory for each respective school, the cartons will be sealed and numbered. Once this action is completed, a tentative receipt will be provided the non-public school by the MDE staff. The MDE will notify a truck line to pick up the textbooks for return to the MDE or its designee. All shipping costs incurred in the return of the textbooks will be paid by the MDE. Once the textbooks are returned, a formal official receipt will be given to the non-public school.

#### **5.F. SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS FROM CLOSING NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Closing non-public schools that are not part of a larger group, will follow the steps outlined in the Section E: Returning Textbooks from Ineligible Non-Public Schools.

However, non-public schools that are a part of a larger group (e.g., catholic dioceses) may follow the steps outlined in the Surplus Textbooks section.

#### **E.G. DEFECTIVE TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks that are on the state-adopted list are built by very rigid construction specifications. The contract between the publisher and the MDE requires that the adopted textbooks continue to measure up to these construction standards. Therefore, any school district that fails to receive defective textbook replacement assistance from the publisher should contact the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

1. When the school receives defective textbooks, the regional depository or publisher from which the textbooks were purchased should be contacted with a request to replace the textbooks. Contact the regional depository or publisher before returning defective textbooks for instructions on the method of return.
2. Textbooks may become defective after they have been in use for a while. Usually defects will take the form of pages falling out of the textbooks or covers coming loose from the textbook block. Normally if there is a defect of this type in workmanship, it will usually become noticeable within the first two or three years of use. The school ~~or school district~~ should contact the regional depository or publisher and discuss the problem and seek replacement of the defective textbooks.

#### **F.H. LOCAL POLICY ON TEXTBOOK REPLACEMENT OR DAMAGES**



Each local district should have board policy that deals with the issuance of textbooks plus fines or damages. This policy needs to be a part of the student handbook. This plan should be sufficient to comply with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-301(ff), which states:

**“As part of their duties, the local district school board may require that parents/legal guardians be responsible for the textbooks and for the compensation to the school district for any textbooks that are not returned to the proper schools upon the withdrawal of their dependent child. If a textbook is lost or not returned by any student who drops out of the public-school district, the parent or legal guardian shall also compensate the school district for the fair market value of the textbooks.”**

The following is an example of the type of policy that could be used:

*“\_\_\_\_ School District provides textbooks free of charge to students. It is the duty of each student to care for the textbooks to the best of his/her ability. Students who lose or damage textbooks are required to pay for them. Students should take pride in the upkeep of their textbooks. Teachers are instructed to assess fines for amounts up to the current value of a book when it is obvious that the student has damaged or defaced the book.”*

The following is an example of one district’s fines and damage replacement schedule. The example is given to aid in the development of a district policy.

DAMAGE	FINE
Writing/drawing/scribbling in book	\$1.00 per page
Excess wear/damage but still usable	10% of cost of the book
Cover of book damaged	25% of cost of the book
Spine damaged	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged but still usable	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged, not usable	Cost of the book
Pages missing, not usable	Cost of the book
Obscene writing or drawing on or in the book	Cost of the book
Non-returned book	Cost of the book

### Non-Public Schools and Special State Schools

All fine and damage collections shall be reported on the proper **FORM (MT-8) FINES AND DAMAGES FORM** and the money sent to the MDE **Textbook**

~~Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. If a student pays a fine based on the total cost of the textbook, the book then belongs to the student. All fines and damages received in the MDE will be credited back to the respective non- public and special state school system in which they were collected for expenditure in the collecting school.

#### **G.I. REBINDING OF TEXTBOOKS**

Contact information for rebinding companies is available at School districts are **not** required to use such company recommended by MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company. The cost for rebinding may be paid from funds used for the purchase of textbooks.

**NOTE:** The MDE will attempt to assist local schools in the location of a book rebinding company. Schools are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company.

**CONTACT:** Norris Bookbinding Company | 107 N Stone Ave. Greenwood, MS 38930 | 662-453-7424

#### **H.J. INVENTORY**

An annual inventory of active, surplus and disposable textbooks must be conducted and submitted by way of the TIMS program to the MDE by ~~June-15th~~the first Friday of August of each year. The MDE Textbook Office will send an **INVENTORY SIGN OFF FORMTIMS INVENTORY FORM** to the district superintendent to be signed verifying that the inventory report in the TIMS system is correct.

#### **I.K. SALES**

The Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-33 provides that parents, persons, or school boards may purchase textbooks directly from the publisher's depository. The price of textbooks shall be at contract price plus whatever postage or delivery charges might accrue.

#### **J.L. NON-PREVENTABLE LOSSES**

Since the textbooks now are the property of each local school district, no emergency fund is maintained at the state level. Consequently, districts are encouraged to maintain a contingency fund or plan to utilize in the replacement of textbooks in the event of a disaster. Further, districts are reminded to delete textbooks that may have been destroyed from their current inventory. It is imperative for each school district to maintain and file current inventory with the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

### **VII. Textbook Use: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools**



## A. PUPIL USE

In accordance with Miss. Ann. § Code 37-43-1, “**Teachers shall permit all pupils in all grades of any public school to carry to their homes for home study, the free textbooks loaned to them, and any other regular textbooks whether they be free textbooks or not.**”

## B. HOME SCHOOL PUPIL USE

Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1 requires local school boards to make available to parents or legal guardians of any school-age children who reside in a school district, upon request, any textbook(s) on the state surplus inventory list. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the return of the textbook(s) to the district upon completion of use of the textbook(s) or they will be required to compensate the district for the fair market value of the textbook(s). ~~Local school districts can contact the MDE Textbook Office for an example of a suggested home policy.~~

# VIII. Textbook Inventory Management System 2.0: Public Schools, Non-Public Schools, and Special State Schools

The Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0) is the web-based inventory system for the MDE Textbook Office. **All inventory reports** – active inventory (textbooks that have been purchased during the school year), surplus inventory (textbooks that are no longer used in the district, but do not qualify for disposal), and disposal inventory (textbooks that have been lost, destroyed or the copyright date is twelve years or older) – must be entered into the TIMS ~~by June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year unless otherwise notified in a timely fashion.~~

## A. DETERMINATION OF DISPOSABLE TEXTBOOKS

Each local school district will determine if textbooks are unusable. Textbooks may be unusable because they are ~~twelve~~ ten (10) years or older, or not relative to current state standards, or the textbooks may be physically worn to the point that continued use is not practical. Before a school district disposes of textbooks, approval must be granted by the Superintendent, and the information must be entered into the TIMS 2.0.

## B. METHODS OF DISPOSAL

Several approaches are available for the disposal of unusable textbooks. Listed below are methods in priority order of consideration:

1. Priority should be given to providing the unusable textbooks to students presently in attendance. School districts should maintain records regarding the number of textbooks disposed of through this method.
2. Unusable textbooks can be sold to a debinding company for paper-recycling purposes. Any funds received for the sale of textbooks through this provision shall be credited back to the school that sold the textbooks for use in the purchase of additional textbooks. Because of the small price

paid for the textbooks by debinding companies, this method is not very practical unless a district has a large quantity of unusable textbooks for disposal. Records must be maintained by the district relative to the number of textbooks disposed through this method. **Note:** The MDE will attempt to assist local districts in the location of a company that would purchase the textbooks for debinding and subsequent recycling of the paper. Contact information is listed at School districts are **not** required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own debinding company.

**NOTE: The MDE will attempt to assist schools in the location of a company that would purchase the textbooks for debinding and subsequent recycling of the paper. Schools are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own debinding company.**

**CONTACT: American Book Exchange, Inc. | 600 West Lee Ext. Sardis, MS 38666 | 662-487-2556**

**2.3.** Unusable textbooks can be donated to local non-profit organizations. Any non-profit organization desiring to receive unusable textbooks must make application to the local school board from which it desires to receive the donated textbooks. This application should detail the plans and intentions relative to the future utilization of the donated textbooks along with background information on the non-profit group. As part of the application to receive books, a copy of the IRS designation should be requested. When the IRS gives a designation of a 504-3-C, this is an approved non-profit organization. In no case may textbooks be donated to any group without prior approval of the local school board of the district from which the textbooks are being requested. School districts should maintain records of the textbooks disposed through this method. **Note:** School districts desiring assistance with the application process for the donation of unusable textbooks to non-profit groups should contact the MDE Textbook Office. Further, districts are encouraged to utilize much discretion in the donation of textbooks to agencies outside the public domain so as not to conflict with other regulatory requirements placed upon local districts.

**3.4.** Unusable textbooks can be donated to national non-profit organizations for distribution to Third World and similar countries. Several factors should be taken into consideration when one is making donations of unusable textbooks.

- ☐ All donations should involve non-profit or similar agencies that will place the textbooks in Third World countries or in an area that experiences vast depravity as far as instructional materials are concerned.
- ☐ All agencies interested in receiving donated unusable textbooks



must first complete and submit to the school district a written application. An example of an APPLICATION-NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION APPLICATION FORM may be secured from the MDE Textbook Office, Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

- All applications must be approved by the local-school board prior to the donation of any unusable textbooks to any agency submitting such application.
- School districts are urged to use extreme discretion in the donation of unusable textbooks so as not to enter into a conflict with other legal requirements. Regardless of which method is used, it is suggested that records be kept of inventory, date, and method used to dispose of unusable textbooks.

### C. SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS

~~The surplus textbook program has been beneficial to schools throughout the state. A surplus textbook is one that is still in good physical condition but is no longer being used in the district. In most situations, the surplus textbooks will be from a previous adoption and may be much more current than those being used in some districts. Books with a copyright of **12 years of age or less** should be kept in the surplus book program.~~

The surplus textbook program has been beneficial to schools throughout the state. A surplus textbook is one that is still in good physical condition but is no longer being used in the district. In most situations, the surplus textbooks will be from a previous adoption and may be much more current than those being used in some districts. Books with a copyright of **nine (9) years of age or less** should be kept in the surplus book program.

#### Steps to be Followed in the Surplus Textbook Program

In order for the surplus textbook program to operate in an efficient manner, local school districts are required to use the following steps:

- ~~1.—Each school shall update the inventory of surplus textbooks at the conclusion of each school year. The inventory update shall be entered into the TIMS and must be completed no later than June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. If changes are made during the year, the system must be updated.~~
- ~~2.—Schools that need surplus textbooks should go to the TIMS. Select the request screen and make the surplus inquiry. The ISBN should be entered into the system along with the quantity needed. This is a request system, not a **SEARCH** tool. Request one ISBN at a time.~~
- ~~3.—Once the needed textbooks have been located in TIMS, contact the Textbook Coordinator and ask that the request be approved. The Textbook Coordinator will indicate the approval in the system under Inquire/Modify request and contact the district that owns the textbook to ask if the district~~

will release the books.

4. ~~The district that owns the books will approve or deny the surplus transfer in the system by going to the approval surplus transfer screen.~~
5. ~~This is a district to district function. At no time should a principal call schools to ask if they have books and if they will release the books that they own.~~
6. ~~If the proper process is not followed, the ending inventory of the two districts will not be correct.~~
7. ~~All freight costs incurred in the transfer of the surplus textbooks will be paid by the receiving school/district. Shipping arrangements should be made before approval is given.~~

1. Each school shall update the inventory of surplus textbooks at the conclusion of each school year. The inventory update shall be entered into the TIMS starting May 1<sup>st</sup> and must be completed no later than June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
2. Schools in need of additional textbooks may go to **SURPLUS** in the Inventory section of ClassGather. Surplus can be searched by ISBN, title, HQIM, publisher, subject, and grade.
3. If surplus inventory is available for the textbook(s) searched, schools can **claim** the surplus inventory.
4. When inventory is **claimed**, the surplus **posting school** will receive a request which the **posting school's district textbook coordinator** will review and approve or deny the **claiming school**.
5. If approved, a notification will be sent to the **claiming school** alerting them of the **posting school's** decision.
6. A **PACKING SLIP** will be generated for the **posting school** with the ISBN and quantity claimed, along with the **claiming school's** shipping address and contact information.
7. Shipping arrangements should be made by both districts' Textbook Coordinators before approval is given.
8. All freight costs incurred in the transfer of the surplus textbooks will be paid by the **claiming school**.
9. Once the shipment arrives at the **claiming school**, the **claiming school** must mark the Transfer as **RECEIVED** in ClassGather for the claimed textbooks to be added to their Active inventory.



10. This is a **district-to-district function**. At no time should a principal call schools to ask if they have books and if they will release the books that they own.
11. If the proper process is not followed, the ending inventory of the two districts will not be correct.

TERM	DEFINITION
<u>Claim</u>	<u>The process of claiming surplus inventory from the Posting School for transfer into the Claiming School's Active Inventory</u>
<u>Claiming School</u>	<u>The school desiring the surplus textbooks who receives into Active Inventory</u>
<u>Posting School</u>	<u>The school with surplus textbooks who transfer inventory into Surplus</u>
<u>"School"</u>	<u>The school district or individual school; those managing inventory for their institution(s)</u>

## IX. PROCESS TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Any person who wishes to report a violation of the policies and procedures stated in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* should follow the process listed below:

- A.** A written complaint letter must be received by the Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within ten (10) business days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not consider any complaints made after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* and shall contain sufficient detail of the alleged violations. The complaint letter shall include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint.
- B.** Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Executive Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Executive Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- C.** The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request a written



response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

**D.** The Chief Academic Officer will review all relevant documentation timely received. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that there is insufficient evidence of a violation, then the Chief Academic Officer will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.

**E.** If the Chief Academic Officer determines that sufficient evidence exists of a violation of policies procedures, will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.

**A.** A written complaint letter must be received by the Textbook Office, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within fourteen (14) calendar days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not investigate any complaints made after the deadline, and the MBE will not hear any matters concerning the complaint filed after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook*. The complaint letter must include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint. Please give as much information as possible in order for the complaint to be investigated.

Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Textbook Office will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Bureau Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Bureau Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.

**B.** The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request by certified mail a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered. Upon receipt of all relevant documentation received prior to the deadline, the Chief Academic Officer will forward the information with a recommendation to the State Superintendent.

**C.** If the State Superintendent determines that there is not sufficient reliable evidence of a violation, then the State Superintendent will notify by letter the person/company making the complaint and the person/company reported to have violated the policies and procedures.



- ~~D. If a resolution cannot be reached, the matter will be presented at a formal hearing before the MBE at its regularly conducted business meeting. The staff of the MDE will present the evidence of the violation(s) with a penalty recommendation. The person/company reported to have violated the policies and procedures will be given an opportunity to present any information relevant to the subject issues. Board members may ask questions of any person.~~
- ~~E. The MBE will determine what, if any, violation(s) of the policies and/or procedures of the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* occurred and what penalty or penalties to impose upon the person/company that violated said policies and procedures. The person/company before the MBE will receive notification of the decision by Board Order.~~

## **X. Forms: Non-Public and Special State Schools**

Several forms are utilized in the implementation of the state-owned textbook program. Below is a listing of current forms:

### **~~A. TEXTBOOK LABEL (MT-1)~~**

~~This property label is used for textbooks after the original label is no longer usable. The MDE Textbook Office will continue to maintain a stock of both and will distribute labels to the schools upon request.~~

### **~~B. TEXTBOOK CARD (MT-6)~~**

~~This card is used for issuing textbooks to students. This allows the school to keep a record of the students to whom the textbooks have been issued.~~

### **C.A. RECORD OF REFUND (MT-8)**

This form is used to accompany the remittance of collections for fines and damages to the MDE.

### **~~D. SOLE SOURCE (FORM SC-1)~~**

~~This form must be used when requesting special approval to purchase textbooks from only one source due to special circumstances.~~

### **E.B. EEF FUNDS FORM (MT-2EE) Textbook Order Form**

This form must be used when using EEF funds for textbooks not ordered from the state depository.

### **~~F. GENERAL FUNDS FORM (MT-2G)~~**

~~This form must be used when using general funds for textbooks not ordered from the state depository.~~

## SECTION TWO

---

# Publisher Regulations



## I. Introduction

The textbook adoption system employed by the State of Mississippi is an orderly process by which textbooks from the marketplace are reviewed and selected for use in school classrooms. To maintain the integrity of the process, specific procedures have been developed for publishers/vendors. The MDE specifies dates to be followed during each adoption year.

## II. Publisher Regulations and Procedures

Publishers are required to follow the procedures below in order to participate in state adoption process.

### A. INTENT TO ~~PARTICIPATE~~SUBMIT BID

Publishers/vendors who have current textbook contracts with the State of Mississippi will receive an INTENT TO ~~PARTICIPATE~~SUBMIT BID FORM and all other information necessary for the submission of a textbook bid. Failure to submit the INTENT TO ~~PARTICIPATE~~SUBMIT BID FORM will not prevent publishers/vendors from submitting bids. Other interested publishers/vendors should contact the MDE ~~Textbook Office~~Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media or download information at MDE Textbook Website.

### B. CALL FOR BIDS

1. All bids for textbooks must be submitted to the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the date designated on the CALL FOR BIDS.
2. A textbook may be proposed and bid in only one category and ~~can-~~not~~cannot~~ be currently under contract. Publishers must list each book, separately, along with the copyright price, printing edition, and grade/subject area to be considered for adoption. Bids not following the format will not be considered.
3. No changes will be made in the submitted ~~BID FORM~~BIG SUBMISSION PACKET after the training activities for the State Rating Committee have begun. When a manuscript/galley is submitted for review by the committee, **no substantive changes** may be made in the content. (Minimum changes may be made that do not affect the compatibility of the textbooks.) MDE reserves the right to review and grant permission before any change can be made in the title or in the content of the textbooks or series or in the manuscript. A bound official sample SHALL be filed with the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the adoption declaration by the SMBE. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the textbook being removed from consideration for adoption.
4. Publishers ~~must~~shall make and execute a good and sufficient bond (executed in triplicate, Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25) payable to the State of Mississippi with a surety thereon. Publishers/vendors are required to

provide proof that the company can secure a textbook bond with the Mississippi Department of Insurance by the date specified. If a textbook bond cannot be secured, the textbook bid will be voided. The bond will be automatically released when the contract ends.

5. Publishers must take appropriate measures to ensure that the textbooks being bid are consistent with the requirements outlined in the applicable Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. The correlation is required for each textbook/software product submitted for adoption consideration. The materials that a publishing company submits for adoption must provide comprehensive coverage of the course content as outlined in the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. Therefore, a correlation to the content standards is required. The correlation must be in the format listed in the bid.
6. Textbooks-Instructional Materials that contain obscene, lewd, sexist or vulgar material; advocating prejudicial behavior or actions; encouraging acts determined to be anti- social or derogatory to any race, sex or religion will not be considered for adoption by the MBE (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-31(5)).
7. Bidders will quote their lowest net wholesale price, according to the provisions and under the conditions set forth in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-23.
8. Some terms used in the "Call for Bids" require clarification. For the convenience of publishers/vendors the following terms are defined:
  - **Textbook** – Any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject. (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1)
  - **Teacher's Edition** – Hardbound book that may be referred to as an Annotated Teacher's Edition or Wraparound. Teacher's editions in the form of a CD or online may be accepted. Consideration will be given on an individual basis for companies that produce anything other than the traditional teacher's edition.
  - Digital Components: Digital-based materials (e.g., assessments, multimedia, simulations, interactive presentations) adopted by the State Rating Committee including teacher and student components that are designed to support a curriculum. Digital or virtual components will be evaluated using the same rubric as printed instructional materials.
  - Comprehensive or Core Materials: Core student or teacher materials that are aligned to the Mississippi College-and Career- Readiness Standards for a particular course or subject area (e.g., English Language Arts). The materials are validated externally and contain knowledge-building complex texts, problems, and assessments.
  - Complementary Materials: Student or teacher materials that are aligned to most of the Mississippi College-and Career-Readiness Standards in a



particular course or subject area (e.g., cursive handwriting) that may contain knowledge-building complex text, problems, and assessments.

□—

□ ~~**Supplemental Materials**—Student or teacher materials that stand alone and do not constitute the principal source of study for a subject or course.~~

□ **Ancillary Materials** – Student or teacher materials that are designed to support a textbook but are not an integral part of the textbook (e.g., consumables and kits).

□ **Sample Copy** – Any product sent by publisher/vendor to school district that is free. Complimentary copy is also a term used to refer to a sample copy.

• **Examination Copy** – Product sent to State Rating Committee member and/or Local Selection Committee member for their review and consideration for adoption. These materials must be returned to School Book Supply Company of Mississippi.

□ ~~**Hardware**—The equipment required to use electronic-based materials. The MBE adopts the teacher and pupil edition. It does not approve supplemental materials and hardware.~~

### C. ELECTROIC FILES FOR BRAILLE TEXTBOOKS – NIMAS

Publishers/vendors must have available a hard copy and electronic media for Braille versions of literary and non-literary subjects according to the provisions and under the conditions set forth in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-24. Publishers must provide an electronic file that includes transcribed, formatted Braille files, including tactile images, that adhere to the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) standards. UPON REQUEST, PUBLISHERS/VENDORS MUST FURNISH, WITHIN TEN WORKING DAYS, A HARD COPY AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA TO:

Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC)  
1252 Eastover Drive, Adm. Bldg. Rm. 300  
Jackson, MS 39211  
Phone: (601) 984-8207

## III. Textbook Materials

### A. ANCILLARY MATERIALS

Publishers/vendors submitting products for adoption that are routinely sold to accompany the student textbook shall state on the INTENT TO ~~PARTICIPATE FORMS~~SUBMIT BID FORM and BID ~~FORM(S)~~SUBMISSION PACKET the non-escalating price at which the ancillaries will be sold. These may be purchased through the Mississippi regional depository for the duration of the textbook contract. In districts where terminal servers are used, a site license must be provided to the

school district at no extra charge. Schools should be aware of the minimum specifications of the hardware and be aware that not all software is compatible with all systems. Schools will be responsible for any technical support and any additional costs incurred in order to utilize software being provided.

## B. FREE MATERIAL

Publishers/vendors that wish to make free materials (e.g., correlation, ancillary materials, ~~supplementary materials~~, etc.) in either print or digital format available to school districts in Mississippi must state their intentions to do so on their STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM. The conditions under which these materials will be available to the schools must be clearly stated on the TEXTBOOK BID FORM. ~~If publishers have electronic items that are available in audio cassette, CD-ROM, DVD, or electronic format, they may offer the different formats so that districts may select the preferred format.~~ MDE reserves the right to reject this portion of the bid if terms are not easily interpreted.

Publishers/vendors ~~will not be~~ shall not be permitted to give away or promise free material not certified on the BID-TEXTBOOK BID FORM. No changes in the free materials list will be permitted after the bid's due date. All free material provided by publishers/vendors, **EXCEPT TEACHER EDITIONS**, must be shipped at publishers/vendors' expense.

**PUBLISHERS/VENDORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ALL LISTED FREE MATERIAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS INCLUDED ON THE BID FORM.** Publishers/vendors who bid free material to be given per student textbook every year for the life of the contract should remember that some schools have four by four schedules. In this case the free material must be given to the school each time they teach the course.

## C. OFFICIAL EXAMINATION COPY

An official examination copy, **both pupil edition and teacher edition**, of each textbook for which a bid is submitted must be filed with the MDE. All textbooks furnished under the contract shall, at all times, during the existence of, be manufactured equal to, or in excess of, the Manufacturing Standards and Specifications for Textbooks established by the National Association of State Textbook Administrators.

1. "First edition, first printing" is defined as a new book, series or product that has been created and printed for the first time. Revised books with new copyrights and ISBN changes are not considered "first edition, first printing" books. State-specific teacher editions that are customized from the national editions are not considered first printing, first edition books. The MDE ~~Textbook Office~~ Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will review a new product to determine if the new product is a "first edition, first printing".
2. Publishers submitting "first edition, first printing" textbooks or other products for review in the state must permanently mark all products. This includes the official examination copies and any other copies that come



into the state as samples. Acceptable markings are:

- ☐ Printing on the cover that states “Examination Copy Not for Classroom Use”
- ☐ Drill a hole in the upper right-hand corner
- ☐ Cut the upper right-hand corner
- 3. Special consideration may be given on an individual basis for different markings for “first edition, first printing”.
- 4. Each official examination copy must have a **removable label** with the following information in the lower right-hand corner:
  - ☐ Subject and Course
  - ☐ Course Code
  - ☐ Grade Level
  - ☐ Complete Title
  - ☐ ~~Student Edition~~ Edition (Student or Teacher)
  - ☐ Publisher
  - ☐ Copyright
  - ☐ ISBN

#### D. FORM B AND FORM M

Each bidder shall place **inside the front cover of the OFFICIAL pupil examination copy**, a statement of warranty (FORM B or FORM M). The publisher/vendor shall certify warranty whether the textbook or media furnished will conform to the Manufacturing Standards and Specifications. **Do not file FORM B and FORM M with the bid.** Official pupil-sample copies received without a FORM B or FORM M inside the front cover will not be considered until a representative of the publisher/vendor correctly affixes the form. **(NOTE: Publishers/vendors submitting galleys or manuscripts should attach a FORM B or FORM M based on the standards and specifications that the textbooks/media, when they are finished, will meet).**

### IV. Representatives from Publisher Companies

#### A. PUBLISHER EMPLOYEES

No teacher in any of the schools of the state, no school district superintendent of schools, and no person officially connected with the government or direction of any school shall, during employment with the school district, act as agent or attorney for any textbook publishing company selling textbooks in this state. If, after employment with a school district, any person filling such position accepts the agency or attorneyship of any textbook publishing company, the acceptance of such agency or attorneyship shall work a forfeiture of the office or position as teacher

held at the time of the acceptance of such agency or attorneyship (Miss. Code Ann. § 37- 43-39).

## **B. PUBLISHER REPRESENTATIVES**

Publishers/vendors will be limited to **five** representatives working in the state at any one time during an adoption. Teachers may not act as a publisher's representative. Managers may have consultations with the representatives during the adoption process. Managers that are in the state consulting with their representatives are not counted as one of the five representatives. However, if the manager contacts schools or attends the local hearings/caravan, he/she will be considered one of the five representatives.

## **C. COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES**

If a publisher has a college representative, this representative's activities will be limited to the college area unless he/she is one of the five representatives to work in the adoption. If the college representative works outside the college area, that representative must be considered as one of the five working in the state.

# **V. Publisher Companies' Presentations**

The adoption process in Mississippi involves State Rating Committees in the evaluation and rating of textbooks as provided by law. Publishers/vendors will receive a listing of the State Rating Committee members before the scheduled presentations. All material considered for adoption will be pre-reviewed and vetted for alignment to the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards by a trained cadre of teachers and leaders.

Teachers will receive rigorous training and supports on reviewing instructional materials based on alignment, rigor/complexity and usability. All titles submitted will be presented to the State Rating committee (with feedback from the pre-review panel) regardless of the pre-review results.

## **A. PRESENTATIONS**

Each publisher will be limited to one (1) presentation with each State Rating Committee to which textbooks have been submitted, by the respective publisher, for adoption consideration. Each presentation shall be scheduled with the Director of Instructional Materials and Library Media and will be conducted using Microsoft Teams. Each vendor must provide the necessary equipment that will be needed for making presentations to the State Rating Committee. Each publisher will be allotted fifteen minutes for presenting one book and ten minutes for each additional book or grade level. In no case will a publisher be allotted more than a total of 60 minutes for a presentation to any one committee.

**NO** presentations are to be made to the State Rating Committee members on an individual basis. **PUBLISHERS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE ANY**



**CONTACT WITH STATE RATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS UNTIL THE AUTHORIZED DATE FOR PRESENTATIONS. TELEPHONE CALLS, PERSONAL VISITS, WRITTEN/ELECTRONIC CORRESPONDENCE, AND COMMUNICATION THROUGH THIRD PARTIES WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

During the state rating committee presentations, the features and benefits of the pupil edition, teacher edition, and ancillary materials/supportive materials may be displayed and discussed within the allotted timeframe.

Each publisher shall furnish the MDE Textbook Office on the specified date, a copy of a one-page, one-sided, 8½" x 11", 3-hole punched sheet of features, benefits and any other important information about the book/series being considered for adoption.

**B. ADOPTION HEARINGS**

There will be no formal adoption hearings by the SMBE with publishers'/vendors' representatives. The results of the Board's adoption will be available in the MDE Textbook Office Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media the day following the SMBE Meeting when the textbooks are adopted.

**~~C. AWARENESS SESSIONS~~**

~~Publishers/vendors may conduct awareness sessions. A school or district may invite a publisher to its district to present materials provided it is held during the period before the MBE adoption.~~

**VI. Time Between State Adoption and Caravan**

- A.** During this period after the adoption by the SMBE, individual publishers/vendors may provide examination copies of pupil edition and teacher's edition for local selection committee members. In some cases, examination copies will not be possible because of the nature of the adopted material. Publishers/vendors may make available examination copies based on their individual products and budgets.
- B.** Publishers/vendors having textbooks adopted by the SMBE will receive a listing of each of the school districts (**FORM C**) participating in the textbook program. This listing will provide the name and shipping information for the person receiving the official examination copies. This information will be sent to the local representative by e-mail ~~and/or mail~~ once the adoption listing is released. Each school shall receive no more than one set of a complete product. The pupil edition, teacher edition, correlation, list of free materials, and price list for each grade level will be considered the official examination copy. Each textbook and each consumable packaging shall contain a removable label that states **Local Selection EXAMINATION COPY**, plus grade level/instructional category in which the textbook has been adopted. Product(s) sent to the ~~State Rating Committee member and/or~~ Local Selection Committee must be returned to ~~School Book Supply Company of~~



Mississippi individual publishers/vendors. Passwords for online curriculum will expire after the adoption process. **All textbooks should be shipped in a consumable package, not weighing more than 25 pounds, and should not be placed in sample boxes or display boxes.**

- C. All examination copies received at the local level are to be returned to the Mississippi depository individual publishers/vendors, freight collected, and **MUST NOT BE DESIGNATED AS COMPLIMENTARY COPIES**. Each book/product and the outside of the box must have a removable label that gives the grade level and instructional category.

**NO EXAMINATION COPY MAY BE GIVEN TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL DURING LOCAL HEARINGS, NOR WILL COMMITTEE MEMBERS OR SCHOOL PERSONNEL BE PERMITTED TO KEEP OFFICIAL EXAMINATION COPIES.** Teachers will be advised that textbooks are not to be numbered, marked in any manner, or issued to students. All superintendents-district textbook coordinators will be notified by the MDE Textbook Office individual publishers/vendors of the procedures to be followed for the return of the examination copies. Publishing companies, their local representatives, and the Mississippi depository will make the determination if textbooks have been returned to the depository to the individual publishers/vendors. It will be the publisher's responsibility to furnish the MDE Textbook Office Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media a listing and cost of textbooks not returned from each school district. This information must be filed no later than twelve months after the adoption date.

This listing is necessary to debit the district allocation for the textbooks not returned from non-public schools and report to public school districts the amount of payment due to the respective publishers/vendors.

## VII. Regulations for Caravan

- A. The procured regional textbook depository will oversee the master schedule and the district schedules. The depository will not provide caravan sites or moving publisher materials.
- B. Only the newly adopted materials will be presented during the local hearing. No other products may be shown or discussed.
- C. During local hearings, publishers may show the pupil edition, teacher edition, and all supportive materials that accompany the materials submitted on the bid. The publisher may distribute the free-with-order brochure.
- D. **INTENT TO ADOPT FORMS** are due to the regional textbook depository thirty-five (35) days from the date of the hearing attended by the local textbook selection committees for the respective districts. The selection results will be provided via email or posted to the regional depository website to local publishers' representatives on a regular basis as results become available.
- A. Local textbook selection caravan will be conducted using a virtual platform located on the MDE Website (The MDE Textbook Office will be in charge of the virtual



caravan.

- ~~B. Only the newly adopted materials will be presented during the local hearing. No other products may be shown or discussed.~~
- ~~C. During local hearings, publishers may show the pupil edition, teacher edition, and all supportive materials that accompany the materials submitted on the bid. The publisher may distribute the free with order brochure.~~
- ~~D. Textbook selection ballots are due 35 days from the date of the hearing attended by the local textbook selection committees for the respective districts. The selection results will be emailed to local publishers' representatives on a regular basis as results become available.~~

## VIII. Contracts with the State of Mississippi

The bidder, or bidders, to whom contracts are awarded, will be required to **provide three copies** of the Official Mississippi Textbook Contract without change, addition, or modification. Publishers **must** also, make and execute a good and sufficient bond (executed in triplicate, Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25) payable to the State of Mississippi with a surety thereon. If changes are made to the ownership of the original contract during the adoption period, a statement of novation is required to continue the contract. The amount of said bond as fixed by the MBE is \$2,500 plus \$500 per title or grade level. Publishers must execute the sufficient bond by the date specified.

The bidder or bidders to whom contracts are awarded by the State of Mississippi shall be required to execute contracts with ~~a publishers' depository~~the regional depository in Jackson, Mississippi, for the distribution of adopted textbooks. **A STOCK OF TEXTBOOKS SUFFICIENT TO MEET ALL REASONABLE AND IMMEDIATE DEMANDS SHALL BE HELD AT A MISSISSIPPI THE REGIONAL TEXTBOOK DEPOSITORY.**

Publishers ~~should~~shall submit for adoption textbooks that will be available in ample supply on July 1 of the fiscal year after the adoption. It is the responsibility of the publisher to meet with regional depository personnel prior to the implementation of the contract to ensure that adequate copies of the adopted textbooks are on hand at the depository to meet anticipated needs. Publishers are required to sign a contract with the regional depository prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Publishers/vendors with state-adopted textbooks are required to provide teacher editions, if published, to accompany the pupil editions requisitioned by the school district. One teacher edition per certified teacher per classroom is required. This requirement includes special education teachers, Advanced Placement teachers, and alternative education teachers.

### A. MANUSCRIPT/GALLEY PROOF

If the finished textbook is not available by the date designated on the Adoption Calendar for Publishers, a publisher may submit a manuscript/galley proof. However, a bound official sample SHALL be filed with the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the adoption declaration by the **SMBE**. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the textbook being removed from consideration for adoption. If the finished textbook becomes available after the manuscript/galley has been submitted, but before the presentation of the said textbook to the committee, the publisher's representative may hand deliver the finished textbook to the committee and pick up the manuscript/galley. When a manuscript/galley is submitted for review by the committee, **no substantive changes** may be made in the content. (Minimum changes may be made that do not affect the compatibility of textbooks.) MDE reserves the right to review and grant permission before any change can be made.

## **B. ADOPTION PERIOD**

The schools of Mississippi follow a five (5) year adoption cycle with the right of the board, in its discretion, to renew or extend the contract from year to year for a period not exceeding two (2) additional years (Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-19 (c)). Textbooks adopted by the **SMBE** will go under contract the following July 1.

## **C. DURING THE ADOPTION PROCESS**

When a company has bid an item during the adoption process for sale or to be given with the product, it must sell the product for the full catalog price. If the item is specific to the state, then it cannot be given or sold until after the adoption process is complete.

## **D. SUBSTITUTIONS DURING CONTRACT PERIOD**

The **SMBE** permits a publisher to substitute an updated copyright at any time after an adoption or during a contract period provided the following conditions are met:

1. The substitution request is submitted in writing along with one copy of the revised student and teacher editions along with a revised FORM B or FORM M with no more than ten (10) percent of changes.
2. The MDE will convene an interval review committee to review the substitution request.
- ~~2.3.~~ The textbook is compatible and may be used in the same classroom as the previous copyright.
- ~~3.4.~~ There will be no price increase in the contracted amount.
- ~~4.5.~~ Publishers keep in print the original (old) copyright for an adoption and also make available the substitution (new) copyright so that either copyright can be available to the schools for purchase and flexibility. Exceptions will be made on a book-by-book situation especially in Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
6. The new copyright must also have new teacher materials/resources or must be compatible with the old copyright.



5-7. Substitution requests shall not be submitted within one year of contract expiration or extensions.

## **IX. Violations**

If a publishing company violates any of the provisions of the handbook, such publishing/vending company's textbooks may not be considered for adoption; or the **SMBE** may impose any other penalty deemed appropriate. According to Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-57, except as may otherwise be provided in this chapter, any person willfully violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by imprisonment not to exceed twelve (12) months in the county jail, or by both, in the discretion of the court.

## **X. Process to File a Complaint**

Any person who wishes to report a violation of the policies and procedures stated in the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* should follow the process listed below:

- A. A written complaint letter must be received by the Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within ten (10) business days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not consider any complaints made after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* and shall contain sufficient detail of the alleged violations. The complaint letter shall include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint.
- B. Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Executive Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Executive Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- C. The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.
- D. The Chief Academic Officer will review all relevant documentation timely received. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that there is insufficient evidence of a violation, then the Chief Academic Officer will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.



- E.** If the Chief Academic Officer determines that sufficient evidence exists of a violation of policies procedures, will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.
- A.** A written complaint letter must be received by the MDE Textbook Office; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within fourteen (14) calendar days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not investigate any complaints made after the deadline, and the MBE will not hear any matters concerning the complaint filed after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook*. The complaint letter must include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint. Please give as much information as possible in order for the complaint to be investigated.
- B.** The individual's signature on the letter constitutes a certificate that to the best of the individual's knowledge, information and belief there is good ground to support the complaint, and the complaint is not being made frivolously. If two (2) unsubstantiated complaints are made from the same person/company, that person/company will receive a written warning from the State Superintendent. If a third unsubstantiated complaint is made by the same person/company, the matter will be presented at a formal hearing before the MBE at its regularly conducted business meeting. The staff of the MDE will present evidence of the unsubstantiated complaints. The person/company making three (3) unsubstantiated complaints will be given an opportunity to present any information relevant to the unsubstantiated complaints. The Board members may ask questions of any person. The MBE will determine if one or more of the complaints were made frivolously. If the MBE determines the person/company made a frivolous complaint, the MBE may impose any penalty deemed appropriate. The person/company before the MBE will receive notification of the decision by Board Order.
- C.** Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Textbook Office will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Bureau Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Bureau Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- D.** The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request by certified mail a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file
- E.** a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered. Upon receipt of all relevant documentation received prior to the deadline, the Chief Academic Officer will forward the information with a recommendation to the State Superintendent.
- F.** If the State Superintendent determines that there is not sufficient reliable evidence of a violation, then the State Superintendent will notify by letter the person/company making the complaint and the person/company reported to have

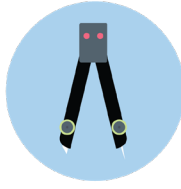


violated the policies and procedures.

- G.**—The State Superintendent may provide an opportunity for the person/company reported to have violated the policies and procedures to meet with him and/or the Chief Academic Officer to discuss a possible resolution of the matter.
- H.**—If a resolution cannot be reached, the matter will be presented at a formal hearing before the MBE at its regularly conducted business meeting. The staff of the MBE will present the evidence of the violation(s) with a penalty recommendation. The person/company reported to have violated the policies and procedures will be given an opportunity to present any information relevant to the subject issues. The Board members may ask questions of any person.
- I.**—The MBE will determine what, if any, violation(s) of the policies and/or procedures of the *Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* occurred and what penalty or penalties to impose upon the person/company that violated said policies and procedures.
- J.F.**—The person/company before the MBE will receive notification of the decision by Board Order.







# Textbook and Instructional Materials ADMINISTRATION HANDBOOK

---

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

For the Adoption, Distribution, Care, and Use of Textbooks and  
Instructional Materials in Mississippi



*Office of Elementary Education and Reading*  
**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS  
AND LIBRARY MEDIA**  
*Spring2023*

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Michael D. Kent

INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Donna H. Boone, Ph.D.

CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

Tenette Smith, Ed.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Office of Elementary Education and Reading*

Elizabeth Simmons, Ed.S.

OFFICE DIRECTOR

*Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media*

The Mississippi State Board of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education, the Mississippi School for the Arts, the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and Blind, and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability in the provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. The following office has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies of the above-mentioned entities:

Director, Office of Human Resources  
Mississippi Department of Education  
359 North West Street, Suite 203  
P. O. Box 771  
Jackson, MS 39205-0771  
(601)359-3511





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SECTION ONE: NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program	<b>6</b>
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> Acquisition/Requisition	<b>7</b>
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials	<b>9</b>
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> Funding	<b>12</b>
<b>COMPONENT 5:</b> Accounting and Condition of Textbooks	<b>13</b>
<b>COMPONENT 6:</b> Textbook Use	<b>17</b>
<b>COMPONENT 7:</b> Textbook Inventory Management System	<b>17</b>
<b>COMPONENT 8:</b> Process to File a Complaint	<b>21</b>
<b>COMPONENT 9:</b> Forms	<b>21</b>
<b>SECTION TWO: PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program	<b>24</b>
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> Acquisition/Requisition	<b>25</b>
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials	<b>26</b>
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> Petition Process	<b>30</b>
<b>COMPONENT 5:</b> Funding	<b>32</b>
<b>COMPONENT 6:</b> Accounting and Condition of Textbooks	<b>33</b>
<b>COMPONENT 7:</b> Textbook Use	<b>36</b>
<b>COMPONENT 8:</b> Textbook Inventory Management System	<b>36</b>
<b>COMPONENT 9:</b> Process to File a Complaint	<b>39</b>
<b>SECTION THREE: TEXTBOOK PUBLISHERS</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>COMPONENT 1:</b> Introduction	<b>43</b>
<b>COMPONENT 2:</b> Publisher Regulations and Procedures	<b>43</b>
<b>COMPONENT 3:</b> Textbook Materials	<b>45</b>
<b>COMPONENT 4:</b> Representatives from Publisher Companies	<b>47</b>
<b>COMPONENT 5:</b> Publisher Companies' Presentations	<b>48</b>
<b>COMPONENT 6:</b> Time Between State Adoption and Caravan	<b>49</b>
<b>COMPONENT 7:</b> Regulations for Caravan	<b>50</b>
<b>COMPONENT 8:</b> Contracts with the State of Mississippi	<b>50</b>
<b>COMPONENT 9:</b> Violations	<b>52</b>
<b>COMPONENT 10:</b> Process to a File a Complaint	<b>52</b>



# INTRODUCTION

[Mississippi. Code Ann. § 37-43-19](#), or the Textbook Law, authorizes the Mississippi State Board of Education (SBE):

- a) To promulgate rules and regulations for the purchase, care, use, disposal, distribution and accounting for all books to be furnished under the terms of this chapter and to promulgate such other rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper administration of this chapter.
- b) To adopt, contract for, and make available for purchase, cash or credit, basal, supplementary or alternative textbooks through twelve (12) grades as provided in the school curriculum, or for any other course that it may add thereto.
- c) To determine the period of contract for rated and adopted textbooks which shall not be for less than four (4) years nor more than five (5) years, with the right of the board, in its discretion, to renew or extend such contract from year to year for a period not exceeding two (2) additional years and to determine the conditions of the approval or forfeiture of a contract and such other terms and conditions as may be necessary and not contrary to law.
- d) To have complete power and authority over additions and amendments to textbooks, advertising for bids and the contents thereof, including auxiliary materials and workbooks, advertising on the protective covers of textbooks, bids and proposals, prices of textbooks, specimen copies, cash deposits, selection and adoption, distribution, fumigation, emergencies, selling to others, return of deposits, forfeiture of deposits, regulations governing deposits, renovation and repair of books, requisition, transportation or shipment of books, and any other acts or regulations, not contrary to law, that may be deemed necessary for furnishing and loaning free textbooks to the school children, as provided in this chapter.

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) is dedicated to providing all students access to high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) to support instruction in schools. Mississippi's defines HQIM as materials that are externally validated, comprehensive and aligned with the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. This material includes knowledge-building complex text and books – both digital and print, multimedia material, rigorous problems, and aligned assessments. HQIM can be used to identify students' areas of strength and opportunities for growth and are sequentially mapped and designed to prepare students to graduate ready for college and the workforce, educative for teachers, and accessible to students with differentiated needs.

When appropriated, funds for the procurement of textbooks must be used to purchase items that meet the definition of a textbook as stated in [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#): "Textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction, which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject."

This publication is designed to provide guidance and information for textbook publishing companies, public schools, non-public schools of Mississippi.

Textbook and instructional material issues not covered in this handbook should be directed to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.





# Section One

## NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program

The school superintendent should appoint a staff member to serve as the Textbook Coordinator. The Textbook Coordinator should supervise the local adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials and completes reports required by the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. The Textbook Coordinator should oversee the correct inventory for the school in the Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0). If a different person manages TIMS 2.0, the person should be noted as the TIMS 2.0 Contact. The following is a job description that may be used by the school to outline the Textbook Coordinator's responsibilities:

The School Textbook Coordinator will assist with the following duties:

### A. SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

1. Report of the local adoption results
  - ☐ Intent to Adopt is due to the regional textbook company no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> during an adoption cycle
2. Documents due on June 15<sup>th</sup>
  - ☐ Fines
  - ☐ ADA Annual Report
3. Report on TIMS Inventory no later than the first Friday in August, which includes:
  - ☐ TIMS contact updates
  - ☐ Active Inventory
  - ☐ Surplus Inventory
  - ☐ Request to Dispose of Unusable Textbooks
4. Local Textbook Selection Committee FORM C
  - ☐ Submitted no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>

### B. ADOPTION PROCESS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

1. Inform the Local Selection Committee about instructional material hearings
2. Provide the Local Selection Committees with access to the textbook depository **INTENT TO ADOPT FORM** and an example of a digital adoption ballot
3. Work with the Local Selection Committee to make sure "Official Local Adoption Examination" copies are returned to the individual



publishers/vendors

4. Provide professional learning to the Local Selection Committee on how to use the virtual review site ([ms.classgather.com](https://ms.classgather.com)) and [Mississippi Instructional Materials Matter](#) site to evaluate instructional materials
5. Meet with the Local Selection Committee to complete the **INTENT TO ADOPT FORM** and return it to the regional textbook depository

### C. ORDERING PROCESS AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL

1. Assist with the allocation of funds needed by each school
2. Make sure the policies of the Department of Finance and Administration are followed as related to the purchase of textbooks
3. Review the purchase orders before sending to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media

## Acquisition/Requisition

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#) ensures that state-adopted textbooks shall be distributed and loaned free of cost to the children of the free public schools of the state and of all other schools located in the state which maintain educational standards equivalent to the standards established by the MDE for the state schools as outlined in the [Mississippi Non-Public School Accountability](#).

### Requirements For Participation:

When a non-public school is in compliance with all applicable non-public school standards, the Office of Accreditation submits a request to the SBE to award an accredited status to the school.

Once the school receives approved accreditation status, a letter requesting to receive textbooks should be submitted. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will provide the appropriate forms to document that the school operates in a non-discriminatory manner in its admission and enrollment practices. The SBE will review this data and determine if the school should be approved to receive textbooks.

Textbooks may be procured with state or local funds in a variety of ways. Listed below are the approved methods and procedures:

### A. STATE-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks and instructional materials that are on the state-adopted list may be procured through the MDE from the regional depository. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media **shall** approve all requisitions.

Non-public schools wishing to use this procurement provision shall complete and submit a **TEXTBOOK ORDER FORM** to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media for processing. The form may be obtained at [MDE Textbook Website](#). Textbook law requires that a school not pay more for a textbook procured

from the publisher than the price stated in the current state-adopted catalog.

## B. NON-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks that are not on the state-adopted textbook and instructional material list may be purchased by the non-public schools through the MDE directly from the regional textbook depository. Schools desiring to utilize this provision should submit any such request on the **TEXTBOOK ORDER FORM**, which can be downloaded at [MDE Textbook Website](#).

State accredited, non-public schools must document the selection process for non-adopted textbooks and comply with state procurement policies and procedures when procuring non-adopted textbooks with EEF funds. According to state procurement policies and regulations, multiple vendors shall be considered along with the costs of products and services offered by those vendors.

## C. PURCHASING PROCEDURES

To ensure that internal controls are in place to document the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, non-public schools are required to follow the state bid requirements established by [Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-13](#). Textbooks that are **adopted and approved** by the SBE are placed under state contract and are exempt from the bidding process [DFA 31-7-13\(m\)\(xxv\)](#).

### Request for Quotes: Adopted Textbooks

1. Complete a Request for Quotes for the Adopted Vendor
2. Include a quote from the vendor
3. Complete the Educational Enhancement Fund order form

### Request for Quotes: ~~Non~~Adopted Textbooks

1. Complete a Request for Quotes for each vendor (at least 2)
2. Include a quote from each vendor
  - a. The regional depository can provide 2 competitive quotes
3. Complete Textbook Selection Form (justification of selection)
4. Complete the Educational Enhancement Fund order form for the textbooks that are being purchased

### BiddingRequirements~~Non~~Adopted Textbooks

- a. 0 – \$5,000: Purchase from any vendor with no bidding.
  - b. \$5,000.1 – \$75,000: Obtain two (2) or more written quotes. Emails with PDF quotes are acceptable.
  - c. Over \$75,000: Must allow 3½ to 4 weeks for bid to be awarded and must be advertised.
- ☐ Schools that purchase non-adopted textbooks more than \$75,000 are required to maintain sealed bid documentation for three (3) years after



the audit report is released. If a purchase is in litigation, the files shall be maintained until resolved.

- The documentation is required to support award decisions, assure approvals, compliance with regulation, and sustain any reviews or litigation. Documentation should include but is not limited to the following: bid list, bid opening sign-in sheet, bidders' spreadsheets, witness signature, requisition, notice to Contract Procurement Center, public notice to newspaper, bid specifications, original bids, bid envelopes, bid addendum, proof of advertisement, bid evaluation, award by the school, or letter from the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

**NOTE:** The bid dollar limit does not include shipping or freight costs.

## D. PAYMENT FOR TEXTBOOKS

### Cash Purchases

If a non-public school desires to use funds other than state textbook funds for the procurement of textbooks, all such requisitions and/or purchase orders shall be submitted directly to the regional depository, publisher, or used textbook vendor.

## Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials

### A. STAMPING, MARKING, AND RETURNING TEXTBOOKS

- Do not stamp, mark, or write the school's name, number, or student name in textbooks until it is determined that the textbooks received are the ones ordered and needed for the particular course. The regional depository typically does not accept returned textbooks that have been stamped or marked.
- Schools are reminded that any unused textbooks should be returned to the regional depository, publisher, or vendor from which they were purchased.
- Textbooks purchased during a fiscal year shall be returned during the same year of purchase to receive credit from the regional depository. Any textbooks that are not returned by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the fiscal year shall not be returned for credit. Such textbooks, if not to be used by the purchasing school district, shall be placed on the surplus textbook list.
- Textbooks cannot be returned to the regional depository for credit if they have been marked or barcoded. Opened kits cannot be returned. Any textbook that is no longer on contract on June 30<sup>th</sup> cannot be returned after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## B. HANDLING INCOMING TEXTBOOK SHIPMENTS

It is recommended that each school develop and follow a plan to ensure all incoming textbook shipments are received in an orderly manner.

### Textbook Coordinator's Responsibility

The Textbook Coordinator is accountable for all textbooks shipped to the school. Therefore, he/she should accept and check all incoming shipments of textbooks requisitioned through the school's textbook program. If the Textbook Coordinator cannot attend to this, the responsibility should be delegated to someone who has a comprehensive understanding of the textbook procurement process.

### Checking Freight Shipments

When the freight company secures a signed delivery receipt without any exceptions noted, the shipping company is released of its liability for losses in the shipment. Therefore, it is imperative that the total number of cartons delivered to the school be accurately counted and recounted before a shipment is accepted.

### Shortage in Freight Shipments

The number of cartons missing shall be plainly marked on all copies of the delivery receipt before they are signed. Do not sign for any shipment unless a copy of the receipt is provided for the school's files. Do not sign for a complete shipment contingent upon the shipper's promise to locate the missing cartons later.

### Damaged Cartons

If there is evidence that any cartons have been damaged by rough handling or in any other way, damages shall be noted on all copies of the delivery receipt. If it is later found that some of the textbooks have been damaged, the regional depository shall be notified so that the textbooks may be replaced. If a non-public school is purchasing from a publisher or other vendor, then the appropriate business should be notified.

### Checking Textbooks

The regional depository or publishers shall include with each shipment, a copy of the packing slip that will indicate only the textbooks contained in the shipment. Backorders and textbooks previously shipped will not be listed on the packing slip. As soon as possible, after the receipt of the shipment, all cartons should be opened and checked against the packing slip. As each carton is opened, make sure that the name of the school appears on each box. If the shipment does not match the packing slip, the textbooks may belong to another school.



### Difference in Packing Slip and Shipment

If it is found that the number of textbooks ordered does not match with the number and title listed on the enclosed copy of the packing slip, recheck to verify the original count. If this recheck shows the same error as the first count, immediately notify the appropriate publisher or the regional depository of the discrepancies. If the error relates to an overage, do not take any disposition action until so instructed by the regional depository or publisher.

### Backorders

If any title on the requisition is out of stock at the regional depository or with the publisher, it will be noted on the invoice that will be received after the textbook shipment. Any title that is on backorder will be shipped as soon as stock becomes available. If a school desires to cancel an existing backorder, the regional depository or vendor shall be notified. However, when a school experiences a lengthy delay in the filling of a backorder, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media shall be contacted and notified.

### Textbook Order Shipment Confirmation

The **TEXTBOOK ORDER SHIPMENT CONFIRMATION** provides proof that the requisitioned textbooks have been properly received in the local school; therefore, the shipment confirmation form shall be completed and returned to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media within five (5) business days of receiving the confirmation.

## C. TEACHER EDITIONS AND FREE MATERIALS

It has become common practice for publishers/vendors to provide free materials, as well as teacher editions, when a school purchases a publisher's textbooks.

1. Publishers/vendors with state-adopted textbooks are required to provide teacher editions, when available, to accompany the student editions requisitioned by the school. One teacher edition per certified teacher per classroom is required. This requirement includes special education teachers, advanced placement teachers, and alternative teachers.
2. Publishers/vendors are required to list on the **STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM** all materials along with the terms and conditions under which the materials will be provided to the schools. This information is a part of the contract between the MDE and the publisher. This information is listed on the [MDE Textbook Website](#).
3. School personnel should not ask a publisher to provide materials that are not listed on the company bid. This type of request is a violation of the contract between the MDE and the company. Also, a company representative should not promise items that are not a part of the bid.

4. If a school fails to obtain the promised free materials, the school should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. Schools are reminded that publishers/vendors will not be permitted to give away or promise free materials not certified on their **STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM**. The provision of free material will be in accordance with the terms and conditions included on the **TEXTBOOK BID FORM** and contract.

#### D. LARGE-PRINT AND BRAILLE TEXTBOOKS

The Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC) is located on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. MIRC is a statewide resource center designed to assist Mississippi's students who are visually impaired with specialized textbooks, equipment, and materials. MIRC operates as a repository for acquired books, equipment, and instructional materials and provides local educational agencies a process to register qualified students through the Federal Quota Fund.

Agencies can order accessible formats of print instructional materials (Braille, large print, and National Instructional Media Access Standards (NIMAS) files for the creation of digital and audio formats) for students with a qualifying print disability.

At the close of the school term, all large-print and Braille textbooks must be returned to the Mississippi Instructional Resource Center.

Materials can be shipped postage free if mailed by the United States Postal Service. Simply place a label on the box with the following:

**“FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND”**

MS Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
MIRC/Admin. Bldg.  
1403 Eastover Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211

Materials and/or textbooks may also be personally delivered to the MIRC by appointment.

#### E. DISTANCE LEARNING AND ACCELERATED PROGRAMS

Textbooks needed for use in distance learning and Accelerated Programs such as Advanced Placement, Cambridge, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment courses should be purchased by the school from the regional depository, publisher, or vendor of the textbooks.

#### F. USED TEXTBOOKS

1. Used textbooks, both adopted and non-adopted, may be purchased from vendors of used textbooks. Approval of the MDE is not required for these purchases. A listing of used textbook companies may be downloaded at [MDE Textbook Website](#).



2. Schools are **not** required to use such companies recommended by the MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own used textbook company.
3. Used textbooks purchased from used textbook companies will not receive a free teacher edition or any other ancillary materials that are listed as free under state contract. Please be aware that textbooks purchased from used textbook companies may be first editions or first printing and may contain errors.
4. Schools are reminded that defective used textbooks should be discussed with the vendor from which the used textbooks were purchased.

## Funding

When appropriated, funds for the procurement of textbooks distributed must be used to purchase items that meet the definition of a textbook as stated in [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#): “Textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction, which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject.”

### A. DISTRIBUTION

The Mississippi Legislature annually appropriates funds to the MDE for the procurement of textbooks. The funds are distributed to non-public schools on a per-pupil basis based on the average daily attendance for the entire nine months of the previous school year for grades K-12. All textbook funds may be utilized to procure textbooks in accordance with the policies contained in this handbook. Textbook funds for non-public schools will be issued as credit that may be used to procure state-owned textbooks.

### B. FREIGHT COSTS

Each non-public school will be responsible for the payment of the freight costs incurred in the shipment of the textbooks to the school. This cost will be charged against the school's allocation.

### C. CARRYOVER

All unexpended credit on June 30<sup>th</sup> for a respective non-public school will be carried over for the expenditure for state-owned textbooks in the next school year.

## Accounting and Condition of Textbooks

### A. OWNERSHIP

In non-public schools, all textbooks are the property of the State of Mississippi and are on loan to the non-public school from the MDE. Each school must make available for transfer all textbooks that have been declared surplus by the non-public school.

## B. FUNDING SOURCES

There is no need to differentiate between funding sources such as State, Local, Educational Enhancement, etc., in the maintenance of an inventory. Regardless of the funding, all sources are to be treated the same regarding the inventory process.

## C. STORAGE OF TEXTBOOKS

The school should provide adequate storage or shelving space for safe and accessible textbook storage.

## D. ISSUANCE OF TEXTBOOKS

The label on the inside cover of each textbook shall be completed before the textbook is issued to the pupil.

Duplicate textbook cards shall be made for all pupils receiving textbooks. These cards shall be completed so that the identity and condition of the textbooks are clearly shown. After the parent's signature has been obtained on the card, the pupil shall be issued the textbook. At the end of the session, upon the student transferring to another non-public school or at any time ordered by the teacher or the administrative head, all books shall be returned by the pupil. The textbook card shall be signed by the teacher and given as a receipt. The pupil shall present the card upon re-enrollment at the non-public school next attended before any textbooks are issued to him/her.

## E. RETURNING TEXTBOOKS FROM INELIGIBLE NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

If any non-public school fails to maintain accreditation approval by the SBE, it will be necessary for all state-owned textbooks to be returned. Procedures for the return of state-owned textbooks from ineligible non-public schools are outlined below.

1. All non-public schools that are ineligible for participation in the state-owned textbook program shall return all state-owned textbooks to the MDE or its designee.
2. Non-public schools whose eligibility expires by the December meeting of the SBE of any year shall have until the following June 30<sup>th</sup> to complete the return of its state-owned inventory to the MDE.
3. Each ineligible non-public school will be supplied no later than May 1<sup>st</sup> with a listing of its current textbook inventory as reflected by the most recently submitted inventory plus an inventory of all textbooks procured since the last inventory was filed. Any discrepancies between the inventory of the school and that of the MDE must be justified in writing.
4. During the month of July after the loss of eligibility of the non-public school, MDE staff will be available to assist each non-public school in inventorying and packaging textbooks for return to the MDE. As the textbooks are packed, a detailed accounting will be made jointly by the school and the MDE staff.



**NOTE:** The non-public school **shall not** pack and return textbooks without the involvement and assistance of MDE staff.

5. Once the textbooks are packed and reconciled with the MDE inventory for each respective school, the cartons will be sealed and numbered. Once this action is completed, a tentative receipt will be provided the non-public school by the MDE staff. The MDE will notify a truck line to pick up the textbooks for return to the MDE or its designee. All shipping costs incurred in the return of the textbooks will be paid by the MDE. Once the textbooks are returned, a formal official receipt will be given to the non-public school.

## F. SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS FROM CLOSING NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Closing non-public schools that are not part of a larger group, will follow the steps outlined in the Section E: Returning Textbooks from Ineligible Non-Public Schools.

However, non-public schools that are a part of a larger group (e.g., catholic dioceses) may follow the steps outlined in the Surplus Textbooks section.

## G. DEFECTIVE TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks that are on the state-adopted list are built by very rigid construction specifications. The contract between the publisher and the MDE requires that the adopted textbooks continue to measure up to these construction standards. Therefore, any school that fails to receive defective textbook replacement assistance from the publisher should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

1. When the school receives defective textbooks, the regional depository or publisher from which the textbooks were purchased should be contacted with a request to replace the textbooks. Contact the regional depository or publisher before returning defective textbooks for instructions on the method of return.
2. Textbooks may become defective after they have been in use for a while. Usually, defects will take the form of pages falling out of the textbooks or covers coming loose from the textbook block. Normally if there is a defect of this type in workmanship, it will usually become noticeable within the first two or three years of use. The school should contact the regional depository or publisher and discuss the problem and seek replacement of the defective textbooks.

## H. LOCAL POLICY ON TEXTBOOK REPLACEMENT OR DAMAGES

Each school should have board policy that deals with the issuance of textbooks plus fines or damages. This policy needs to be a part of the student handbook. This plan should be sufficient to comply with [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-301\(ff\)](#), which states:

“As part of their duties, the local district school board may require that parents/legal guardians be responsible for the textbooks and for the compensation to the school district for any textbooks that are not returned to the proper schools upon the withdrawal of their dependent child. If a textbook is lost or not returned by any student who drops out of the public-school district, the parent or legal guardian shall also compensate the school district for the fair market value of the textbooks.”

The following is an **example** of the type of policy that could be used:

“\_\_\_\_\_ School provides textbooks free of charge to students. It is the duty of each student to care for the textbooks to the best of his/her ability. Students who lose or damage textbooks are required to pay for them. Students should take pride in the upkeep of their textbooks. Teachers are instructed to assess fines for amounts up to the current value of a book when it is obvious that the student has damaged or defaced the book.”

The following is an **example** of one district’s fines and damage replacement schedule. The **example** is given to aid in the development of a district policy.

DAMAGE	FINE
Writing/drawing/scribbling in book	\$1.00 per page
Excess wear/damage but still usable	10% of cost of the book
Cover of book damaged	25% of cost of the book
Spine damaged	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged but still usable	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged, not usable	Cost of the book
Pages missing, not usable	Cost of the book
Obscene writing or drawing on or in the book	Cost of the book
Non-returned book	Cost of the book

All fine and damage collections shall be reported on the proper **FINES AND DAMAGES FORM** and the money sent to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. If a student pays a fine based on the total cost of the textbook, the book then belongs to the student. All fines and damages received in the MDE will be credited back to the respective non- public school in which they were collected for expenditure in the collecting school.

## I. REBINDING OF TEXTBOOKS

Contact information for rebinding companies is available at [MDE Textbook Website](#). Schools are **not** required to use such company recommended by MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company. The cost for rebinding may be paid from funds used for the purchase of textbooks.

**NOTE:** The MDE will attempt to assist local schools in the location of a book rebinding company. Schools are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company.

**CONTACT:** Norris Bookbinding Company | 107 N Stone Ave. Greenwood, MS 38930 | 662-453-7424

## J. INVENTORY

An annual inventory of active, surplus and disposable textbooks, including kits and consumables, must be conducted and submitted by way of the TIMS program to the MDE by the first Friday of August each year. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will send an **TIMS INVENTORY FORM** to the school's Textbook Coordinator to be signed verifying that the inventory report in the TIMS system is correct.

## K. SALES

The [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-33](#) provides that parents, persons, or school boards may purchase textbooks directly from the regional depository. The price of textbooks shall be at contract price plus whatever postage or delivery charges might accrue.

## L. NON-PREVENTABLE LOSSES

Since the textbooks now are the property of each school, no emergency fund is maintained at the state level. Consequently, schools are encouraged to maintain a contingency fund or plan to utilize in the replacement of textbooks in the event of a disaster. Further, schools are reminded to delete textbooks that may have been destroyed from their current inventory. It is imperative for each school to maintain and file current inventory with the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

## Textbook Use

### A. PUPIL USE

In accordance with [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#), "Teachers shall permit all pupils in all grades of any public school to carry to their homes for home study, the free textbooks loaned to them, and any other regular textbooks whether they be free textbooks or not."



## B. HOME SCHOOL PUPIL USE

[Mississippi. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#) requires local school boards to make available to parents or legal guardians of any school-age children who reside in a school district, upon request, any textbook(s) on the state surplus inventory list. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the return of the textbook(s) to the district upon completion of use of the textbook(s) or they will be required to compensate the district for the fair market value of the textbook(s).

## Textbook Inventory Management System

The Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0) is the web-based inventory system for the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. **All inventory reports** – active inventory (textbooks that have been purchased during the school year), surplus inventory (textbooks that are no longer used in the district, but do not qualify for disposal), and disposal inventory (textbooks that have been lost, destroyed or the copyright date is 10 years or older) – must be entered into the TIMS in timely fashion.

### A. DETERMINATION OF DISPOSABLE TEXTBOOKS

Each school will determine if textbooks are unusable. Textbooks may be unusable because they are **ten (10) years or older**, or not relative to current state standards, or the textbooks may be physically worn to the point that continued use is not practical. Before a school disposes of textbooks, approval must be granted by the Superintendent or lead administrator, and the information must be entered into the TIMS for final approval by the MDE Textbook Director.

### B. METHODS OF DISPOSAL

Several approaches are available for the disposal of unusable textbooks. Listed below are methods in priority order of consideration:

1. Priority should be given to providing the unusable textbooks to students presently in attendance. School districts should maintain records regarding the number of textbooks disposed of through this method.
2. Unusable textbooks can be sold to a debinding company for paper-recycling purposes. Any funds received for the sale of textbooks through this provision shall be credited back to the school that sold the textbooks for use in the purchase of additional textbooks. Because of the small price paid for the textbooks by debinding companies, this method is not very practical unless a district has a large quantity of unusable textbooks for disposal. Records must be maintained by the district relative to the number of textbooks disposed through this method.

**NOTE:** The MDE will attempt to assist schools in the location of a company that would purchase the textbooks for debinding and subsequent recycling of the paper. Schools are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each school has the discretion and authority to secure its own debinding company.

**CONTACT:** American Book Exchange. Inc. | 600 West Lee Ext. Sardis, MS 38666 | 662-487-2556

3. Unusable textbooks can be donated to local non-profit organizations. Any non-profit organization desiring to receive unusable textbooks must make application to the local school board from which it desires to receive the donated textbooks. This application should detail the plans and intentions relative to the future utilization of the donated textbooks along with background information on the non-profit group. As part of the application to receive books, a copy of the IRS designation should be requested. When the IRS gives a designation of a 504-3-C, this is an approved non-profit organization. In no case may textbooks be donated to any group without prior approval of the local board of the school from which the textbooks are being requested. School districts should maintain records of the textbooks disposed through this method.

**NOTE:** Schools desiring assistance with the application process for the donation of unusable textbooks to non-profit groups should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. Further, districts are encouraged to utilize much discretion in the donation of textbooks to agencies outside the public domain so as not to conflict with other regulatory requirements placed upon local schools.

4. Unusable textbooks may be donated to national non-profit organizations for distribution to Third World and similar countries. Several factors should be taken into consideration when one is making donations of unusable textbooks.
  - ☐ All donations should involve non-profit or similar agencies that will place the textbooks in Third World countries or in an area that experiences vast depravity as far as instructional materials are concerned.
  - ☐ All agencies interested in receiving donated unusable textbooks must first complete and submit to the school a written application. An example of a **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION APPLICATION FORM** may be secured from the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.
  - ☐ All applications must be approved by the local-school board prior to the donation of any unusable textbooks to any agency submitting such application.
  - ☐ Schools are urged to use extreme discretion in the donation of unusable textbooks so as not to enter into a conflict with other legal requirements.

**NOTE:** Regardless of which method is used, it is suggested that records be kept of inventory, date, and method used to dispose of unusable textbooks.

### C. SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS

The surplus textbook program has been beneficial to schools throughout the state. A surplus textbook is one that is still in good physical condition but is no longer being used in the district. In most situations, the surplus textbooks will be from a previous adoption and may be much more current than those being used in some

districts. Books with a copyright of **nine (9) years of age or less** should be kept in the surplus book program.

### Steps to be Followed in the Surplus Textbook Program

For the surplus textbook program to operate in an efficient manner, schools are required to use the following steps:

1. Each school shall update the inventory of surplus textbooks at the conclusion of each school year. The inventory update shall be entered into the TIMS starting May 1<sup>st</sup> and must be completed no later than June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
2. Schools in need of additional textbooks may go to **SURPLUS** in the Inventory section of ClassGather. Surplus can be searched by ISBN, title, HQIM, publisher, subject, and grade.
3. If surplus inventory is available for the textbook(s) searched, schools can **claim** the surplus inventory.
4. When inventory is **claimed**, the surplus **posting school** will receive a request which the **posting school's district textbook coordinator** will review and approve or deny the **claiming school**.
5. If approved, a notification will be sent to the **claiming school** alerting them of the **posting school's** decision.
6. A **PACKING SLIP** will be generated for the **posting school** with the ISBN and quantity claimed, along with the **claiming school's** shipping address and contact information.
7. Shipping arrangements should be made by both districts' Textbook Coordinators before approval is given.
8. All freight costs incurred in the transfer of the surplus textbooks will be paid by the **claiming school**.
9. Once the shipment arrives at the **claiming school**, the **claiming school** must mark the Transfer as **RECEIVED** in ClassGather for the claimed textbooks to be added to their Active inventory.
10. This is a **district-to-district function**. At no time should a principal call schools to ask if they have books and if they will release the books that they own.
11. If the proper process is not followed, the ending inventory of the two districts will not be correct.



TERM	DEFINITION
Claim	The process of claiming surplus inventory from the Posting School for transfer into the Claiming School's Active Inventory
Claiming School	The school desiring the surplus textbooks who receives into Active Inventory
Posting School	The school with surplus textbooks who transfer inventory into Surplus
"School"	The school district or individual school; those managing inventory for their institution(s)

## Process to File a Complaint

Any person who wishes to report a violation of the policies and procedures stated in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* should follow the process listed below:

- A. A written complaint letter must be received by the Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within ten (10) business days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not consider any complaints made after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* and shall contain sufficient detail of the alleged violations. The complaint letter shall include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint.
- B. Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Executive Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Executive Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- C. The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.
- D. The Chief Academic Officer will review all relevant documentation timely received. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that there is insufficient evidence of a

violation, then the Chief Academic Officer will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.

- E. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that sufficient evidence exists of a violation of policies procedures, will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.

## Forms

Several forms are utilized in the implementation of the state-owned textbook program. All forms can be found on the Textbook Adoption and Procurement website: [www.mdek12.org/OAE/OEER/TextbookAdoptionProcurement](http://www.mdek12.org/OAE/OEER/TextbookAdoptionProcurement).

### A. MDE REQUEST FOR QUOTES

This form is used to request quotes for adopted and non-adopted instructional materials. It must be completed and returned with all required order forms.

### B. TEXTBOOK ORDER FORM

This form is turned into the textbook office when ordering adopted and non-adopted textbooks.

### C. TEXTBOOK SELECTION FORM

The textbook selection form provides justification for the purchasing on non-adopted instructional materials.

### D. TEXTBOOK ORDER SHIPMENT CONFIRMATION FORM

The textbook order shipment confirmation provides proof that the requisitioned textbooks have been properly received in the local school; therefore, the shipment confirmation should be returned to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

### E. ADA ANNUAL REPORT

The annual attendance report is due by June 15<sup>th</sup> in order to receive an allocation for the upcoming school year's instructional materials. Failure to return the form will result in loss of funding.

### F. RECORD OF REFUND

This form is used to accompany the remittance of collections for fines and damages to the MDE.

### G. TIMS INVENTORY REPORT

This form is due from each school by the first Friday in August to ensure that TIMS is up to date.

#### H. TIMS 2.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

This form is used to update or create a new TIMS 2.0 account for either district- or school-level textbook coordinators.

#### I. LOCAL TEXTBOOK ADOPTION COMMITTEE

A local adoption committee should be created and reported to the regional textbook company by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

#### J. INTENT TO ADOPT

The local textbook adoption committee will complete and report to the regional textbook depository prior to April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.





## SectionTwo

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

---

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Administration of the Textbook Adoption Program

The district superintendent should appoint a staff member to serve as the Textbook Coordinator. The Textbook Coordinator should supervise the local adoption and purchase of textbooks and instructional materials and completes reports required by the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. The Textbook Coordinator should oversee the correct inventory for the district in the Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0). If a different person manages TIMS 2.0, the person should be noted as the TIMS 2.0 Contact. The following is a job description that may be used by the district to outline the Textbook Coordinator's responsibilities:

The District Textbook Coordinator will assist with the following duties:

### A. SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

1. Report of the local adoption results
  - ☐ Intent to Adopt is due to the regional textbook company no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>
2. Report on TIMS Inventory no later than the first Friday in August, which includes:
  - ☐ Active Inventory
  - ☐ Surplus Inventory
  - ☐ Request to Dispose of Unusable Textbooks
  - ☐ TIMS contact updates
3. Local Textbook Selection Committee FORM C
  - ☐ Submitted online no later than October 1<sup>st</sup>

### B. ADOPTION PROCESS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

1. Inform the Local Selection Committees about instructional material hearings
2. Provide the Local Selection Committees with access to the textbook depository **INTENT TO ADOPT FORM** and an example of digital adoption ballot
3. Work with the Local Selection Committee to make sure “Official Local Adoption Examination” copies are returned to the individual publishers/vendors
4. Provide professional learning to the Local Selection Committees on how to use the virtual review site (ms.classgather.com) and [Mississippi Instructional Materials Matter](#) site to evaluate instructional materials

5. Meet with the Local Selection Committee to complete the **INTENT TO ADOPT FORM** and return it to the regional textbook depository

### C. ORDERING PROCESS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL

1. Assist with the allocation of funds needed by each school
2. Review the purchase orders before sending to the regional depository
3. Make sure the policies of the local board are followed as related to the purchase of textbooks

## Acquisition/Requisition

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#) ensures that state-adopted textbooks shall be distributed and loaned free of cost to the children of the free public schools of the state and of all other schools located in the state which maintain educational standards equivalent to the standards established by the MDE for the state schools as outlined in the [Mississippi Public School Accountability](#).

Textbooks may be procured with state or local funds in a variety of ways. Listed below are the approved methods and procedures:

### A. STATE-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#) states that “Textbooks” shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject, and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject; this would include both print and digital formats. Textbooks that are on the state-adopted list may be purchased directly from the regional depository. All requisitions will need to be submitted by the local school district to depository in accordance with the procedures established by that entity and communicated to school districts. Requisitions for textbooks are **NOT** to be sent through the MDE.

Textbooks and instructional materials that are listed on the state-adopted list may also be purchased directly from the publisher. School districts are reminded that the textbook law requires that a district pay no more for a textbook procured directly from the publisher than the price stated in the current state-adopted catalog.

### B. NON-ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks and instructional materials that are not state adopted may be purchased by the local school district directly from the regional textbook depository. Approval **is not** required from the SBE or the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, prior to purchase. However, districts are strongly encouraged to develop a review and evaluation plan to ensure that quality textbooks are being purchased. The purchase of textbooks and instructional materials must follow the state purchasing procedures if textbooks are not under state contract.



## C. PURCHASING PROCEDURES

To ensure that internal controls are in place to document the most efficient use of taxpayer dollars, public schools are required to follow the state bid requirements established by [Miss. Code Ann. § 31-7-13](#). Textbooks that are **adopted and approved** by the SBE are placed under state contract and are exempt from the bidding process [DFA 31-7-13\(m\)\(xxv\)](#).

### Bidding Requirements

- d. 0 – \$5,000: Purchase from any vendor with no bidding.
- e. \$5,000.1 – \$75,000: Obtain two (2) or more written quotes. Emails with PDF quotes are acceptable.
- f. Over \$75,000: Must allow 3½ to 4 weeks for bid to be awarded and must be advertised.
  - ☐ Public schools that purchase non-adopted textbooks more than \$75,000 are required to maintain sealed bid documentation for three (3) years after the audit report is released. If a purchase is in litigation, the files shall be maintained until resolved.
  - ☐ The documentation is required to support award decisions, assure approvals, compliance with regulation, and sustain any reviews or litigation. Documentation should include but is not limited to the following: bid list, bid opening sign-in sheet, bidders' spreadsheets, witness signature, requisition, notice to Contract Procurement Center, public notice to newspaper, bid specifications, original bids, bid envelopes, bid addendum, proof of advertisement, bid evaluation, award by the school, or letter from the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

**NOTE:** The bid dollar limit does not include shipping or freight costs.

## D. PAYMENT FOR TEXTBOOKS

All purchases and subsequent payments for textbooks are between the local school districts making the purchase and the regional depository, the publisher, or the vendor as may be appropriate.

## Ordering and Handling Textbooks and Materials

### A. ORDERING TEXTBOOKS

The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media does not complete textbook orders for public school districts. All orders should go to the regional depository, publisher, or used textbook vendor. Inventory should be entered into the Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0) as soon as it is processed and received.

## B. STAMPING, MARKING, AND RETURNING TEXTBOOKS

- Do not stamp, mark, or write the school's name, number, or student name in textbooks until it is determined that the textbooks received are the ones ordered and needed for the particular course. The regional depository typically does not accept for returned textbooks that have been stamped or marked.
- Schools are reminded that any unused textbooks should be returned to the regional depository, publisher, or vendor from which they were purchased.
- Textbooks purchased during a fiscal year shall be returned during the same year of purchase to receive credit from the regional depository. Any textbooks that are not returned by June 30<sup>th</sup> of the fiscal year shall not be returned for credit. Such textbooks, if not to be used by the purchasing school district, shall be placed on the surplus textbook list.
- Textbooks cannot be returned to the regional depository for credit if they have been marked or barcoded. Opened kits cannot be returned. Any textbook that is no longer on contract on June 30<sup>th</sup> cannot be returned after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## C. HANDLING INCOMING TEXTBOOK SHIPMENTS

It is suggested that each school and district develop and follow a plan to ensure all incoming textbook shipments have been received in an orderly manner.

### Textbook Coordinator's Responsibility

The Textbook Coordinator is accountable for all textbooks shipped to the school. Therefore, he/she should personally accept and check all incoming shipments of textbooks requisitioned through the district's textbook program. If the Textbook Coordinator cannot attend to this, the responsibility should be delegated to someone who has a comprehensive understanding of the textbook procurement process.

### Checking Freight Shipments

When the freight company secures a signed delivery receipt without any exceptions noted, the shipping company is automatically released of its liability for losses in the shipment. Therefore, it is imperative that the total number of cartons delivered to the school be accurately counted and recounted before a shipment is accepted.

### Shortage in Freight Shipments

The number of cartons missing should be plainly marked on all copies of the delivery receipt before they are signed. Do not sign for any shipment unless a copy of the receipt is provided for the school's files. Do not sign for a complete shipment contingent upon the shipper's promise to locate the missing cartons later.

### Damaged Cartons

If there is evidence that any cartons have been damaged by rough handling or in any other way, damages should be noted on all copies of the delivery receipt. If it is later found that some of the textbooks have been damaged, the regional depository should be notified so that the textbooks may be replaced. If a school is purchasing from a publisher or other vendor, then the appropriate business should be notified.

### Checking Textbooks

The regional depository or publishers will include with each shipment, a copy of the packing slip that will indicate only the textbooks contained in the shipment. Backorders and textbooks shipped previously will not be listed on the packing slip. As soon as possible, after the receipt of the shipment, all cartons should be opened and checked against the packing slip. As each carton is opened, please make sure that the name of the school appears on each box. If the shipment does not match the packing slip, the textbooks may belong to another school.

### Difference in Packing Slip and Shipment

If it is found that the number of textbooks ordered disagree with the number and title listed on the enclosed copy of the packing slip, recheck to verify the original count. If this recheck shows the same error as the first count, immediately notify the appropriate publisher or the regional depository of the discrepancies. If the error relates to an overage, do not take any disposition action until so instructed by the vendor.

### Backorders

If any title on the requisition is out of stock at the regional depository or with the publisher, it will be noted on the invoices that will be received from the regional depository approximately one week after the textbook shipment. Any title that is backordered will be shipped as soon as stock becomes available. If a school desires to cancel an existing backorder, the appropriate regional depository or vendor should be notified. However, when a school district experiences a lengthy delay in the filling of a backorder, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media should be contacted and notified.

**NOTE:** This action is essential since requisitions no longer flow through the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

## D. TEACHER EDITIONS AND FREE MATERIALS

It has become common practice for publishers/vendors to provide free materials, as well as teacher editions, when a school purchases a publisher's textbooks.

1. Publishers/vendors with state-adopted textbooks are required to provide teacher editions, when available, to accompany the student editions requisitioned by the school. One teacher edition per certified teacher per classroom is required. This requirement includes special education teachers,



advanced placement teachers, and alternative teachers.

2. Publishers/vendors are required to list on the **STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM** all materials along with the terms and conditions under which the materials will be provided to the schools. This information is a part of the contract between the MDE and the publisher. This information is listed on the [MDE Textbook Website](#).
3. School personnel should not ask a publisher to provide materials that are not listed on the company bid. This type of request is a violation of the contract between the MDE and the company. Also, a company representative should not promise items that are not a part of the bid.
4. If a school fails to obtain the promised free materials, the school should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. Schools are reminded that publishers/vendors will not be permitted to give away or promise free materials not certified on their **STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM**. The provision of free material will be in accordance with the terms and conditions included on the **TEXTBOOK BID FORM** and contract.

#### E. LARGE-PRINT AND BRAILLE TEXTBOOKS

The Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC) is located on the campus of the Mississippi Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. MIRC is a statewide resource center designed to assist Mississippi's students who are visually impaired with specialized textbooks, equipment, and materials. MIRC operates as a repository for acquired books, equipment, and instructional materials and provides local educational agencies a process to register qualified students through the Federal Quota Fund.

Agencies can order accessible formats of print instructional materials (Braille, large print, and National Instructional Media Access Standards (NIMAS) files for the creation of digital and audio formats) for students with a qualifying print disability.

At the close of the school term, all large-print and Braille textbooks must be returned to the Mississippi Instructional Resource Center.

Materials can be shipped postage free if mailed by the United States Postal Service. Simply place a label on the box with the following:

**“FREE MATTER FOR THE BLIND”**

MS Schools for the Deaf and the Blind  
MIRC/Admin. Bldg.  
1403 Eastover Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211

Materials and/or textbooks may also be delivered to the MIRC by appointment.

## F. DISTANCE LEARNING AND ACCELERATED PROGRAMS

Textbooks needed for use in distance learning and Accelerated Programs such as Advanced Placement, Cambridge, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Enrollment courses should be purchased by the local school district from the regional depository, publisher, or vendor of the textbooks.

## G. USED TEXTBOOKS

1. Used textbooks, both adopted and non-adopted, may be purchased from vendors of used textbooks. Approval of the MDE is not required for these purchases. A listing of used textbook companies may be downloaded at [MDE Textbook Website](#).
2. School districts are **not** required to use such companies recommended by the MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own used textbook company.
3. Used textbooks purchased from used textbook companies will not receive a free teacher edition or any other ancillary materials that are listed as free under state contract. Please be aware that textbooks purchased from used textbook companies may be first editions or first printing and may contain errors.
4. School districts are reminded that defective used textbooks should be discussed with the vendor from which the used textbooks were purchased.

## Petition Process

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-31](#) contains a provision whereby five or more school boards may petition the SBE to add a book or series of textbooks to the state-adopted list. If a district so chooses to petition the SBE, the following policies and procedures should be adhered to:

### A. School districts may petition the SBE to allow for the requisition of non-adopted textbooks.

1. Five or more school boards may petition the SBE to add one or more textbooks or series of textbooks to the state adopted list. The SBE will have sixty days to act upon the petition. If it is not acted upon in this time period, the petition shall be deemed as approved.
2. A school board may petition for the requisition of "new and innovative" textbooks that have become available since the last textbook adoption in the respective subject area.
3. Textbooks may be procured through the petition process from the regional textbook depository. Since non-adopted textbooks may now be purchased with state funds, it is no longer necessary to follow the steps of the petition process. However, if the district or districts should choose to go the petition route, the SBE will consider the petition for approval.

**B. Consideration shall be given to the following by the local school districts in the submission of petitions under any of the above-named provisions:**

1. Each district that submits a petition must secure at least one copy of each textbook included in the petition for review and evaluation purposes. Each district submitting a petition shall select a committee of no fewer than three individuals to review and evaluate each textbook or series included in the petition. These individuals must have expertise in the subject area being reviewed, and at least two of these individuals must be teachers. Each reviewer/evaluator shall utilize and submit a copy of the review rubric used to evaluate the instructional material. Each textbook will be reviewed based on minimum quality indicators, which include but not limited to alignment to the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards.
2. Each district submitting a petition shall provide a rationale as to why currently adopted textbooks are not sufficient to meet the needs for the courses for which the non-adopted textbooks are intended.
3. All textbooks requisitioned through this process shall be purchased by the petitioning district. Districts may submit petitions at any time during the school year.
4. Each school district submitting a petition for non-adopted textbooks shall receive approval of its school board prior to submission, and it must state on the petition the date of such board action.
5. Each district submitting a petition request shall state on the petition the quantity of each title petitioned along with information regarding the publisher.

Publishers/vendors having textbooks adopted through the petition process must be willing to submit a bid, execute a contract and bond with the state of Mississippi, and provide a stock of textbooks in the regional depository sufficient to meet all reasonable demands. Consequently, school districts must initially determine if the publisher whose textbooks are being petitioned is willing to meet these requirements before submitting a petition. Each publisher whose textbooks are petitioned must supply one copy of each student and teacher edition to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media to be used for review purposes. If the textbook is subsequently approved by the SBE, it will be placed on file for review. Contracts with publishers/vendors of successfully petitioned textbooks will have the same expiration dates as all other textbooks in like subject areas.

**C. The MDE shall designate one person, with expertise in the respective subject area(s) for which textbooks are petitioned, to review the petition and the textbook, and recommend to the SBE the appropriate action to be taken regarding the addition of the textbooks to the state adopted list.**



- D. Districts receiving SBE approval on petitions will be notified promptly, and action will be taken to add the requested textbooks to the state-adopted list as soon as possible.
- E. School districts considering the petition process should remember the following:
  - 1. The petition process requires considerable effort to demonstrate the quality and alignment of the content.
  - 2. The petition must be approved by the local schoolboard.
  - 3. The publisher of the petitioned textbook will need to submit a bid and execute a contract and bond upon approval by the SBE.
  - 4. State textbook law now permits the purchase of non-adopted textbooks directly from the publisher resulting in a timely delivery if this approach is selected over the petition process.

## Funding

When appropriated, funds for the procurement of textbooks distributed must be used to purchase items that meet the definition of a textbook as stated in [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#): “Textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction, which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject.”

### A. DISTRIBUTION

The Mississippi Legislature will annually appropriate funds to the MDE for the procurement of textbooks. The funds are a part of the Mississippi Adequate Education Program. The district will allocate from the annual funds the amount to be used for the purchase of textbooks. All textbook budgeted funds may be utilized to procure textbooks in accordance with the policies contained in this handbook.

### B. FREIGHT COSTS

Each public school district will be responsible for the payment of the freight costs incurred in the shipment of the textbooks to the local school or district.

## Accounting and Condition of Textbooks

### A. OWNERSHIP

Textbooks are the property of the local public school districts. Each district must make available for transfer all textbooks that have been declared surplus by the district.

### B. FUNDING SOURCES

There is no need to differentiate between funding sources such as State, Local,

Educational Enhancement, etc., in the maintenance of an inventory. Regardless of the funding, all sources are to be treated the same regarding the inventory process.

### C. STORAGE OF TEXTBOOKS

The school should provide adequate storage or shelving space for safe and accessible textbook storage.

### D. ISSUANCE OF TEXTBOOKS

The label on the inside cover of each textbook shall be completed before the textbook is issued to the pupil.

The school district shall maintain adequate records regarding the issuance of textbooks to students. It is suggested that the method of issuing textbooks to students reflect the condition of the book. The parent or guardian should sign that the child has received books. A statement similar to the following should be part of the signature process.

"I hereby accept the responsibility of the books listed and for any other books issued to my child during the current school year. If any book is lost, damaged, or destroyed, I agree to pay such loss before my child will be entitled to any further books." (See MS AG. op., Johnson (Jan. 10, 1997).)

### E. DEFECTIVE TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks that are on the state-adopted list are built by very rigid construction specifications. The contract between the publisher and the MDE requires that the adopted textbooks continue to measure up to these construction standards. Therefore, any school district that fails to receive defective textbook replacement assistance from the publisher should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

1. When the school receives defective textbooks, the regional depository or publisher from which the textbooks were purchased should be contacted with a request to replace the textbooks. Contact the regional depository or publisher before returning defective textbooks for instructions on the method of return.
2. Textbooks may become defective after they have been in use for a while. Usually, defects will take the form of pages falling out of the textbooks or covers coming loose from the textbook block. Normally if there is a defect of this type in workmanship, it will usually become noticeable within the first two or three years of use. The school or school district should contact the regional depository or publisher and discuss the problem and seek replacement of the defective textbooks.

## F. LOCAL POLICY ON TEXTBOOK REPLACEMENT OR DAMAGES

Each local district should have a board policy that deals with the issuance of textbooks plus fines or damages. This policy needs to be a part of the student handbook. This plan should be sufficient to comply with [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-301\(ff\)](#), which states:

“As part of their duties, the local district school board may require that parents/legal guardians be responsible for the textbooks and for the compensation to the school district for any textbooks that are not returned to the proper schools upon the withdrawal of their dependent child. If a textbook is lost or not returned by any student who drops out of the public-school district, the parent or legal guardian shall also compensate the school district for the fair market value of the textbooks.”

The following is an **example** of the type of policy that could be used:

“\_\_\_\_\_ School District provides textbooks free of charge to students. It is the duty of each student to care for the textbooks to the best of his/her ability. Students who lose or damage textbooks are required to pay for them. Students should take pride in the upkeep of their textbooks. Teachers are instructed to assess fines for amounts up to the current value of a book when it is obvious that the student has damaged or defaced the book.”

The following is an **example** of one district’s fines and damage replacement schedule. The **example** is given to aid in the development of a district policy.

DAMAGE	FINE
Writing/drawing/scribbling in book	\$1.00 per page
Excess wear/damage but still usable	10% of cost of the book
Cover of book damaged	25% of cost of the book
Spine damaged	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged but still usable	25% of cost of the book
Water damaged, not usable	Cost of the book
Pages missing, not usable	Cost of the book
Obscene writing or drawing on or in the book	Cost of the book
Non-returned book	Cost of the book



## G. REBINDING OF TEXTBOOKS

Contact information for rebinding companies is available at [MDE Textbook Website](#). School districts are **not** required to use such company recommended by MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company. The cost for rebinding may be paid from funds used for the purchase of textbooks.

**NOTE:** The MDE will attempt to assist local districts in the location of a book rebinding company. School districts are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own rebinding company.

**CONTACT:** Norris Bookbinding Company | 107 N Stone Ave. Greenwood, MS 38930 | 662-453-7424

## H. INVENTORY

An annual inventory of active, surplus and disposable textbooks, including kits and consumables, must be conducted and submitted by way of the TIMS program to the MDE by the first Friday in August each year. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will send a **TIMS INVENTORY FORM** to the school's TIMS contact to be signed verifying that the inventory report in the TIMS system is correct.

## I. SALES

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-33](#) provides that parents, persons, or school boards may purchase textbooks directly from the regional depository. The price of textbooks shall be at contract price plus whatever postage or delivery charges might accrue.

## J. NON-PREVENTABLE LOSSES

Since the textbooks now are the property of each local school district, no emergency fund is maintained at the state level. Consequently, districts are encouraged to maintain a contingency fund or plan to utilize in the replacement of textbooks in the event of a disaster. Further, districts are reminded to delete textbooks that may have been destroyed from their current inventory. Each school district shall maintain and file current inventory with the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

## Textbook Use

### A. PUPIL USE

In accordance with [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#), “Teachers shall permit all pupils in all grades of any public school to carry to their homes for home study, the free textbooks loaned to them, and any other regular textbooks whether they be free textbooks or not.”

## B. HOME SCHOOL PUPIL USE

[Mississippi Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#) requires local school boards to make available to parents or legal guardians of any school-age children who reside in a school district, upon request, any textbook(s) on the state surplus inventory list. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the return of the textbook(s) to the district upon completion of use of the textbook(s) or they will be required to compensate the district for the fair market value of the textbook(s).

## Textbook Inventory Management System

The Textbook Inventory Management System (TIMS 2.0) is the web-based inventory system for the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. **All inventory reports** – active inventory (textbooks that have been purchased during the school year), surplus inventory (textbooks that are no longer used in the district, but do not qualify for disposal), and disposal inventory (textbooks that have been lost, destroyed or the copyright date is twelve years or older) – must be entered into the TIMS in a timely fashion.

### A. DETERMINATION OF DISPOSABLE TEXTBOOKS

Each local school district will determine if textbooks are unusable. Textbooks may be unusable because they are **ten (10) years or older**, or not relative to current state standards, or the textbooks may be physically worn to the point that continued use is not practical. Before a school district disposes of textbooks, approval must be granted by the Superintendent, and the information must be entered into the TIMS for final approval by the MDE Textbook Director.

### B. METHODS OF DISPOSAL

Several approaches are available for the disposal of unusable textbooks. Listed below are methods in priority order of consideration:

1. Priority should be given to providing the unusable textbooks to students presently in attendance. School districts should maintain records regarding the number of textbooks disposed of through this method.
2. Unusable textbooks can be sold to a debinding company for paper-recycling purposes. Any funds received for the sale of textbooks through this provision shall be credited back to the school that sold the textbooks for use in the purchase of additional textbooks. Because of the small price paid for the textbooks by debinding companies, this method is not very practical unless a district has a large quantity of unusable textbooks for disposal. Records must be maintained by the district relative to the number of textbooks disposed through this method.

**NOTE:** The MDE will attempt to assist local districts in the location of a company that would purchase the textbooks for debinding and subsequent recycling of the paper. School districts are not required to use such company recommended by the MDE. Each district has the discretion and authority to secure its own debinding company.

**CONTACT:** American Book Exchange. Inc. | 600 West Lee Ext. Sardis, MS 38666 | 662-487-2556

3. Unusable textbooks may be donated to local non-profit organizations. Any non-profit organization desiring to receive unusable textbooks must make application to the local school board from which it desires to receive the donated textbooks. This application should detail the plans and intentions relative to the future utilization of the donated textbooks along with background information on the non-profit group. As part of the application to receive books, a copy of the IRS designation should be requested. When the IRS gives a designation of a 504(3)(c), this is an approved non-profit organization. In no case may textbooks be donated to any group without prior approval of the local school board of the district from which the textbooks are being requested. School districts should maintain records of the textbooks disposed through this method.

**NOTE:** School districts desiring assistance with the application process for the donation of unusable textbooks to non-profit groups should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media. Further, districts are encouraged to utilize much discretion in the donation of textbooks to agencies outside the public domain so as not to conflict with other regulatory requirements placed upon local districts.

4. Unusable textbooks can be donated to national non-profit organizations for distribution to Third World and similar countries. Several factors should be taken into consideration when one is making donations of unusable textbooks.
  - ☐ All donations should involve non-profit or similar agencies that will place the textbooks in Third World countries or in an area that experiences vast depravity as far as instructional materials are concerned.
  - ☐ All agencies interested in receiving donated unusable textbooks must first complete and submit to the school district a written application. An example of a **NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION APPLICATION** may be secured from the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.
  - ☐ All applications must be approved by the local-school board prior to the donation of any unusable textbooks to any agency submitting such application.
  - ☐ School districts are urged to use extreme discretion in the donation of unusable textbooks so as not to enter into a conflict with other legal requirements.

**NOTE:** Regardless of which method is used, it is suggested that records be kept of inventory, date, and method used to dispose of unusable textbooks.

## C. SURPLUS TEXTBOOKS

The surplus textbook program has been beneficial to schools throughout the state. A surplus textbook is one that is still in good physical condition but is no longer being used in the district. In most situations, the surplus textbooks will be from a



previous adoption and may be much more current than those being used in some districts. Books with a copyright of **nine (9) years of age or less** should be kept in the surplus book program.

### Steps to be Followed in the Surplus Textbook Program

For the surplus textbook program to operate in an efficient manner, local school districts are required to use the following steps:

1. Each school shall update the inventory of surplus textbooks at the conclusion of each school year. The inventory update shall be entered into the TIMS starting May 1<sup>st</sup> and must be completed no later than June 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.
2. Schools in need of additional textbooks may go to **SURPLUS** in the Inventory section of ClassGather. Surplus can be searched by ISBN, title, HQIM, publisher, subject, and grade.
3. If surplus inventory is available for the textbook(s) searched, schools can **claim** the surplus inventory.
4. When inventory is **claimed**, the surplus **posting school** will receive a request which the **posting school's district textbook coordinator** will review and approve or deny the **claiming school**.
5. If approved, a notification will be sent to the **claiming school** alerting them of the **posting school's** decision.
6. A **PACKING SLIP** will be generated for the **posting school** with the ISBN and quantity claimed, along with the **claiming school's** shipping address and contact information.
7. Shipping arrangements should be made by both districts' Textbook Coordinators before approval is given.
8. All freight costs incurred in the transfer of the surplus textbooks will be paid by the **claiming school**.
9. Once the shipment arrives at the **claiming school**, the **claiming school** must mark the Transfer as **RECEIVED** in ClassGather for the claimed textbooks to be added to their Active inventory.
10. This is a **district-to-district function**. At no time should a principal call schools to ask if they have books and if they will release the books that they own.
11. If the proper process is not followed, the ending inventory of the two districts will not be correct.

TERM	DEFINITION
Claim	The process of claiming surplus inventory from the Posting School for transfer into the Claiming School's Active Inventory
Claiming School	The school desiring the surplus textbooks who receives into Active Inventory
Posting School	The school with surplus textbooks who transfer inventory into Surplus
"School"	The school district or individual school; those managing inventory for their institution(s)

## Process to File a Complaint

Any person who wishes to report a violation of the policies and procedures stated in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* should follow the process listed below:

- A. A written complaint letter must be received by the Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within ten (10) business days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not consider any complaints made after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* and shall contain sufficient detail of the alleged violations. The complaint letter shall include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint.
- B. Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Executive Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Executive Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- C. The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

- D. The Chief Academic Officer will review all relevant documentation timely received. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that there is insufficient evidence of a violation, then the Chief Academic Officer will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.
- E. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that sufficient evidence exists of a violation of policies procedures, will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.

## Forms

Several forms are utilized in the implementation of the state-owned textbook program. All forms can be found on the Textbook Adoption and Procurement website: [www.mdek12.org/OAE/OEER/TextbookAdoptionProcurement](http://www.mdek12.org/OAE/OEER/TextbookAdoptionProcurement).

### A. TEXTBOOK SELECTION FORM

The textbook selection form provides justification for the purchasing on non-adopted instructional materials.

### B. TIMS INVENTORY REPORT

This form is due from each school by the first Friday in August to ensure that TIMS is up to date.

### C. TIMS 2.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

This form is used to update or create a new TIMS 2.0 account for either district- or school-level textbook coordinators.

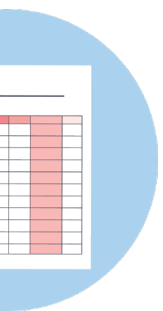
### D. LOCAL TEXTBOOK ADOPTION COMMITTEE

A local adoption committee should be created and reported to the regional textbook company by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### E. INTENT TO ADOPT

The local textbook adoption committee will complete and report to the regional textbook depository prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.





## SectionThree

### PUBLISHERS

---

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Introduction

The textbook adoption system utilized by the State of Mississippi is a process by which textbooks from the marketplace are reviewed and selected for use in school classrooms. To maintain the integrity of the process, specific procedures have been developed for publishers/vendors. The MDE specifies dates to be followed during each adoption year.

## Publisher Regulations and Procedures

Publishers are required to follow the procedures below to participate in state adoption process.

### A. INTENT TO SUBMIT BID

Publishers/vendors who have current textbook contracts with the State of Mississippi will receive an **INTENT TO SUBMIT BID FORM** and all other information necessary for the submission of a textbook bid. Failure to submit the **INTENT TO SUBMIT BID FORM** will not prevent publishers/vendors from submitting bids. Other interested publishers/vendors should contact the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media or download information at [MDE Textbook Website](#).

### B. CALL FOR BIDS

1. All bids for textbooks shall be submitted to the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the date designated on the **CALL FOR BIDS**.
2. A textbook may be proposed and bid in only one category and cannot be currently under contract. Publishers must list each book, separately, along with the copyright price, printing edition, and grade/subject area to be considered for adoption. Bids not following the format shall not be considered.
3. No changes shall be made in the submitted **BID SUBMISSION PACKET** after the training activities for the State Rating Committee have begun. When a manuscript/galley is submitted for review by the committee, **no substantive changes** may be made in the content. (Minimum changes may be made that do not affect the compatibility of the textbooks.) The MDE reserves the right to review and grant permission before any change can be made in the title or in the content of the textbooks or series or in the manuscript. A bound official sample **SHALL** be filed with the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the adoption declaration by the SBE. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the textbook being removed from consideration for adoption.
4. Publishers **SHALL** make and execute a sufficient bond (executed in triplicate, [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25](#)) payable to the State of Mississippi with a surety thereon. Publishers/vendors are required to provide proof that the company can secure a textbook bond with the Mississippi Department of Insurance by the date specified. If a textbook bond cannot be secured, the textbook bid shall be voided. No funds are paid to the Mississippi Department of Education. **The bond will be automatically released when the contract ends.**

5. Publishers must take appropriate measures to ensure that the textbooks being bid are consistent with the requirements outlined in the applicable Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. The correlation is required for each textbook/software product submitted for adoption consideration. The materials that a publishing company submits for adoption must provide comprehensive coverage of the course content as outlined in the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards. Therefore, a correlation to the content standards is required. The correlation shall be in the format listed in the bid.
6. Instructional Materials that contain obscene, lewd, sexist or vulgar material; advocating prejudicial behavior or actions; encouraging acts determined to be anti- social or derogatory to any race, sex or religion shall not be considered for adoption by the SBE ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-31\(5\)](#)).
7. Bidders will quote their lowest net wholesale price, according to the provisions and under the conditions set forth in [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-23](#).
8. Some terms used in the "Call for Bids" require clarification. For the convenience of publishers/vendors the following terms are defined:
  - **Textbook:** Any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject. ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-1](#))
  - **Teacher's Edition:** Hardbound book that may be referred to as an Annotated Teacher's Edition or Wraparound. Digital teacher's editions may be accepted. Consideration will be given on an individual basis for companies that produce anything other than the traditional teacher's edition.
  - **Digital Components:** Digital-based materials (e.g., assessments, multimedia, simulations, interactive presentations) adopted by the State Rating Committee including teacher and student components that are designed to support a curriculum. Digital or virtual components will be evaluated using the same rubric as printed instructional materials.
  - **Comprehensive or Core Materials:** Core student or teacher materials that are aligned to the Mississippi College-and Career- Readiness Standards for a particular course or subject area (e.g., English Language Arts). The materials are validated externally and contain knowledge-building complex texts, problems, and assessments.
  - **Complementary Materials:** Student or teacher materials that are aligned to most of the Mississippi College-and Career-Readiness Standards in a particular course or subject area (e.g., cursive handwriting) that may contain knowledge-building complex text, problems, and assessments.
  - **Ancillary Materials:** Student or teacher materials that are designed to support a textbook but are not an integral part of the textbook (e.g., consumables and kits).



- **Sample Copy:** Any product sent by publisher/vendor to school district that is free. Complimentary copy is also a term used to refer to a sample copy.
- **Examination Copy:** Product sent to State Rating Committee member for their review and consideration for adoption. These materials must be returned to the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media.

### C. ELECTRONIC FILES FOR BRAILLE TEXTBOOKS – NIMAS

Publishers/vendors shall have available a hard copy and electronic media for Braille versions of literary and non-literary subjects according to the provisions and under the conditions set forth in [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-24](#). Publishers shall provide an electronic file that includes transcribed, formatted Braille files, including tactile images, that adhere to the Braille Authority of North America (BANA) standards.

**UPON REQUEST, PUBLISHERS/VENDORS SHALL FURNISH, WITHIN TEN WORKING DAYS, A HARD COPY AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA TO:**

Mississippi Instructional Resource Center (MIRC)  
1403 Eastover Drive, Adm. Bldg. Rm. 300 Jackson, MS 39211  
Phone: (601) 984-8207

## Textbook Materials

### A. ANCILLARY MATERIALS

Publishers/vendors submitting products for adoption that are routinely sold to accompany the student textbook shall state on the **INTENT TO SUBMIT BID FORM** and **BID SUBMISSION PACKET** the non-escalating price at which the ancillaries will be sold. These may be purchased through the regional depository for the duration of the textbook contract. In districts where terminal servers are used, a site license shall be provided to the school district at no extra charge. Schools should be aware of the minimum specifications of the hardware and be aware that not all software is compatible with all systems. Schools will be responsible for any technical support and any additional costs incurred to utilize software being provided.

### B. FREE MATERIAL

Publishers/vendors that wish to make free materials (e.g., correlation, ancillary materials, etc.) in either print or digital format available to school districts in Mississippi must state their intentions to do so on their **STATEMENT OF FREE MATERIALS FORM**. The conditions under which these materials will be available to the schools must be clearly stated on the **TEXTBOOK BID FORM**. The MDE reserves the right to reject this portion of the bid if terms are not easily interpreted.

Publishers/vendors **shall not** give away or promise free material not certified on the **TEXTBOOK BID FORM**. No changes in the free materials list will be permitted after the bid's due date. All free material provided by publishers/vendors, **EXCEPT TEACHER EDITIONS**, shall be shipped at publishers/vendors' expense.

**NOTE:** Publishers/vendors shall be required to provide all listed free materials in accordance with the terms and conditions included on the bid form.

Publishers/vendors who bid free material to be given per student textbook every year for the life of the contract should remember that some schools have four by four schedules. In this case the free material shall be given to the school each time they teach the course.

### C. OFFICIAL EXAMINATION COPY

An official examination copy, **both pupil edition and teacher edition**, of each textbook for which a bid is submitted must be filed with the MDE ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25](#)). All textbooks furnished under the contract shall, at all times, during the existence of, be manufactured equal to, or in excess of, the Manufacturing Standards and Specifications for Textbooks established by the National Association of State Textbook Administrators.

1. "First edition, first printing" is defined as a new book, series or product that has been created and printed for the first time. Revised books with new copyrights and ISBN changes are not considered "first edition, first printing" books. State-specific teacher editions that are customized from the national editions are not considered first printing, first edition books. The MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will review a new product to determine if the new product is a "first edition, first printing".
2. Publishers submitting "first edition, first printing" textbooks or other products for review in the state must permanently mark all products. This includes the official examination copies and any other copies that come into the state as samples. Acceptable markings are:
  - Printing on the cover that states "Examination Copy Not for Classroom Use"
  - Drill a hole in the upper right-hand corner
  - Cut the upper right-hand corner
3. Special consideration may be given on an individual basis for different markings for "first edition, first printing".
4. Each official examination copy must have a **removable label** with the following information in the lower right-hand corner:
  - Subject and Course
  - Course Code ([tinyurl.com/mdcoursecode](https://tinyurl.com/mdcoursecode))

- Grade Level
- Complete Title
- Edition (Student/Teacher)
- Publisher
- Copyright
- ISBN

#### D. FORM B AND FORM M

**Each** bidder shall place inside the front cover of the OFFICIAL pupil examination copy, a statement of warranty (**FORM B** or **FORM M**). The publisher/vendor shall certify warranty whether the textbook or media furnished will conform to the Manufacturing Standards and Specifications.

**Do not file FORM B and FORM M with the bid.** Official pupil-sample copies received without a FORM B or FORM M inside the front cover will not be considered until a representative of the publisher/vendor correctly affixes the form.

**NOTE:** Publishers/vendors submitting galley or manuscripts should attach a FORM B or FORM M based on the standards and specifications that the textbooks/media, when they are finished, will meet.

### Representatives from Publisher Companies

#### A. PUBLISHER EMPLOYEES

No teacher in any of the schools of the state, no school district superintendent of schools, and no person officially connected with the government or direction of any school shall, during employment with the school district, act as agent or attorney for any textbook publishing company selling textbooks in this state. If, after employment with a school district, any person filling such position accepts the agency or attorney of any textbook publishing company, the acceptance of such agency or attorney shall work a forfeiture of the office or position as teacher held at the time of the acceptance of such agency or attorney ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-39](#)).

#### B. PUBLISHER REPRESENTATIVES

Publishers/vendors shall be limited to **five (5)** representatives working in the state at any one time during an adoption. Teachers may not act as a publisher's representative. Managers may have consultations with the representatives during the adoption process. Managers that are in the state consulting with their representatives are not counted as one of the five representatives. However, if the manager contacts schools or attends the local hearings/caravan, he/she will be considered one of the five (5) representatives.



## C. COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES

If a publisher has a college representative, this representative's activities will be limited to the college area unless he/she is one of the five representatives to work in the adoption. If the college representative works outside the college area, that representative must be considered as one of the five working in the state.

## Publisher Companies' Presentations

The adoption process in Mississippi involves State Rating Committees in the evaluation and rating of textbooks as provided by law ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-21](#)). Publishers/vendors will receive a listing of the State Rating Committee members before the scheduled presentations. All material considered for adoption shall be pre-reviewed and vetted for alignment to the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards by a trained cadre of teachers and leaders. Teachers will receive rigorous training and supports on reviewing instructional materials based on alignment, complexity and usability. All titles submitted shall be presented to the State Rating committee (with feedback from the pre-review panel) regardless of the pre-review results.

## A. PRESENTATIONS

Each publisher shall be limited to one (1) presentation with each State Rating Committee to which textbooks have been submitted, by the respective publisher, for adoption consideration. Each presentation shall be scheduled with the Director of Instructional Materials and Library Media and will be conducted using Microsoft Teams. Each publisher shall be allotted fifteen (15) minutes for presenting one book and ten (10) minutes for each additional book or grade level. In no case shall a publisher be allotted more than a total of **sixty (60) minutes** for a presentation to any one committee.

**NO** presentations are to be made to the State Rating Committee members on an individual basis.

**NOTE:** Publishers are not permitted to have any contact with state rating committee members until the authorized date for presentations. Telephone calls, personal visits, written/electronic correspondence, and communication through third parties with committee members are strictly prohibited.

During the state rating committee presentations, the features and benefits of the pupil edition, teacher edition, and ancillary materials/supportive materials may be displayed and discussed within the allotted timeframe.

Each publisher shall furnish the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media on the specified date, a copy of a one-page, one-sided, 8½" x 11", 3-hole punched sheet of features, benefits and any other important information about the book/series being considered for adoption.

## B. ADOPTION HEARINGS

There shall be no formal adoption hearings by the SBE with publishers'/vendors' representatives. The results of the Board's adoption shall be available in the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media the day following the SBE's March meeting when the textbooks are adopted.

### Time Between State Adoption and Caravan

- A. During this period after the adoption by the SBE, individual publishers/vendors may provide examination copies of pupil edition and teacher's edition for local selection committee members. In some cases, examination copies will not be possible because of the nature of the adopted material. Publishers/vendors may make available examination copies based on their individual products and budgets.
- B. Publishers/vendors having textbooks adopted by the SBE will receive a listing of each of the school districts **(FORM C)** participating in the textbook program. This listing will provide the name and shipping information for the person receiving the official examination copies. This information will be sent to the local representative by e-mail once the adoption listing is released. Each school shall receive no more than one set of a complete product. The pupil edition, teacher edition, correlation, list of free materials, and price list for each grade level will be considered the official examination copy.

Each textbook and each consumable packaging shall contain a removable label that states **Local Selection EXAMINATION COPY**, plus grade level/instructional category in which the textbook has been adopted.

Product(s) sent to the Local Selection Committee must be returned to the individual publishers/vendors. Passwords for online curriculum will expire after the adoption process.

**NOTE:** All textbooks should be shipped in a consumable package, not weighing more than 25 pounds, and should not be placed in sample boxes or display boxes.

- C. All examination copies received at the local level are to be returned to the individual publishers/vendors. Each book/product and the outside of the box must have a removable label that gives the grade level and instructional category.

**NOTE:** No examination copy may be given to school personnel during local hearings, nor will committee members of school personnel be permitted to keep official examination copies.

Teachers will be advised that textbooks are not to be numbered, marked in any manner, or issued to students. All district textbook coordinators will be notified by the individual publisher/vendor of the procedures to be followed for the return of the examination copies. Publishing companies and their local representatives will make the determination if textbooks have been returned to the individual publishers/vendors.

It will be the publisher's responsibility to furnish the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media a listing and cost of textbooks not returned from each school district. **This information shall be filed no later than twelve (12) months after the**

### adoption date.

This listing is necessary to debit the district allocation for the textbooks not returned from non-public schools and report to public school districts the amount of payment due to the respective publishers/vendors.

## Regulations for Caravan

- A. The procured regional textbook depository will oversee the master schedule and the district schedules. The depository will not provide caravan sites or moving publisher materials.
- B. Only the newly adopted materials will be presented during the local hearing. No other products may be shown or discussed.
- C. During local hearings, publishers may show the pupil edition, teacher edition, and all supportive materials that accompany the materials submitted on the bid. The publisher may distribute the free-with-order brochure.
- D. **INTENT TO ADOPT FORMS** are due to the regional textbook depository thirty-five (35) days from the date of the hearing attended by the local textbook selection committees for the respective districts. The selection results will be provided via email or posted to the regional depository website to local publishers' representatives on a regular basis as results become available.

## Contracts with the State of Mississippi

The bidder, or bidders, to whom contracts are awarded, shall be required to **provide three copies** of the Official Mississippi Textbook Contract without change, addition, or modification. Publishers **must** also, make and execute a sufficient bond (executed in triplicate, [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-25](#)) payable to the State of Mississippi with a surety thereon. If changes are made to the ownership of the original contract during the adoption period, a statement of novation is required to continue the contract. The amount of said bond as fixed by the SBE is \$2,500 plus \$500 per title or grade level. Publishers shall execute the sufficient bond by the date specified.

**The bidder or bidders to whom contracts are awarded by the State of Mississippi shall be required to execute contracts with the regional depository for the distribution of adopted instructional materials.**

**NOTE:** A stock of textbooks sufficient to meet all reasonable and immediate demands shall be held at the regional textbook depository.

Publishers shall submit for adoption textbooks that will be available in ample supply on July 1<sup>st</sup> of the fiscal year after the adoption. It is the responsibility of the publisher to meet with regional depository personnel prior to the implementation of the contract to ensure that adequate copies of the adopted textbooks are on hand at the regional depository to meet anticipated needs. Publishers are required to sign a contract with the regional depository prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Publishers/vendors with state-adopted textbooks are required to provide teacher editions, if published, to accompany the pupil editions requisitioned by the school district. One teacher edition per certified teacher per classroom is required. This requirement includes special



education teachers, Advanced Placement teachers, and alternative education teachers.

#### A. MANUSCRIPT/GALLEY PROOF

If the finished textbook is not available by the date designated on the Adoption Calendar for Publishers, a publisher may submit a manuscript/galley proof.

However, a bound official sample **SHALL** be filed with the MDE by 5:00 p.m. on the day preceding the adoption declaration by the SBE. Failure to meet this deadline will result in the textbook being removed from consideration for adoption. If the finished textbook becomes available after the manuscript/galley has been submitted, but before the presentation of the said textbook to the committee, the publisher's representative may hand deliver the finished textbook to the committee and pick up the manuscript/galley. When a manuscript/galley is submitted for review by the committee, **no substantive changes** may be made in the content. (Minimum changes may be made that do not affect the compatibility of textbooks.) The MDE reserves the right to review and grant permission before any change can be made.

#### B. ADOPTION PERIOD

The schools of Mississippi follow a five (5) year adoption cycle with the right of the board, in its discretion, to renew or extend the contract from year to year for a period not exceeding two (2) additional years ([Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-19 \(c\)](#)). Textbooks adopted by the SBE will go under contract the following July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### C. DURING THE ADOPTION PROCESS

When a company has bid an item during the adoption process for sale or to be given with the product, it must sell the product for the full catalog price. If the item is specific to the state, then it cannot be given or sold until after the adoption process is complete.

#### D. SUBSTITUTIONS DURING CONTRACT PERIOD

The SBE permits a publisher to substitute an updated copyright at any time after an adoption or during a contract period provided the following conditions are met:

1. The substitution request is submitted in writing along with one copy of the revised student and teacher editions along with a revised **FORM B** or **FORM M** with no more than **ten (10) percent** of changes.
2. The MDE will convene an internal review committee to review the substitution request.
3. The textbook is compatible and may be used in the same classroom as the previous copyright.
4. There will be no price increase in the contracted amount.
5. Publishers keep in print the original (old) copyright for an adoption and make

available the substitution (new) copyright so that either copyright can be available to the schools for purchase and flexibility. Exceptions will be made on a book-by-book situation especially in Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

6. The new copyright must also have new teacher materials/resources or must be compatible with the old copyright.
7. Substitution requests **shall not** be submitted within one year of contract expiration or extensions.

## Violations

If a publishing company violates any of the provisions of the handbook, such publishing/vending company's textbooks may not be considered for adoption; or the SBE may impose any other penalty deemed appropriate. According to [Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-57](#), except as may otherwise be provided in this chapter, any person willfully violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or by imprisonment not to exceed twelve (12) months in the county jail, or by both, in the discretion of the court.

## Process to File a Complaint

Any person who wishes to report a violation of the policies and procedures stated in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* should follow the process listed below:

- A. A written complaint letter must be received by the Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media, Mississippi Department of Education; P. O. Box 771, Jackson, MS 39205-0771 within ten (10) business days after the person/company making the complaint has knowledge of the violation. The MDE will not consider any complaints made after the deadline. The complaint letter must indicate the policies and procedures being violated with a reference to the page and paragraph in the *Mississippi Textbook and Instructional Materials Administration Handbook* and shall contain sufficient detail of the alleged violations. The complaint letter shall include the name of the person/company that violated the rule, the date and location where the violation occurred and the signature of the individual making the complaint.
- B. Within seven (7) business days of receipt of the complaint, the MDE Office of Instructional Materials and Library Media will investigate the violation(s) and forward the findings to the Executive Director of the Office of Elementary Education and Reading. The Executive Director will review the staff's findings and make a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officer.
- C. The Chief Academic Officer will review the findings and request a written response to the complaint from the person/company who has been reported as violating the policies and/or procedures. The person/company shall file a written response to the complaint addressed to the Chief Academic Officer within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request. Responses received after the deadline will not be considered.

- D. The Chief Academic Officer will review all relevant documentation timely received. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that there is insufficient evidence of a violation, then the Chief Academic Officer will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.
- E. If the Chief Academic Officer determines that sufficient evidence exists of a violation of policies procedures, will notify all parties in writing within seven (7) business days.