

# Becoming an Approved Textbook Publisher in Ohio

*Each Child, Our Future* is Ohio's five-year strategic plan to ensure each student enjoys a bright future thanks to an excellent preK-12 education. The vision is supported by three core principles: *equity*, *partnerships* and *quality schools*. Ohio law further upholds these principles with requirements that provide students with equitable access to printed and electronic textbooks.

## REQUIREMENTS

Publishers applying for approval in the State of Ohio must review and comply with [Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3329](#) and [Ohio Administrative Code \(OAC\) 3301-51-21](#). To demonstrate compliance, each publisher must submit the following:

1. A statement indicating the "list wholesale price to school districts in Ohio will be no more than the lowest list wholesale price available to school districts in any other state."
2. A price list with the electronic file prices for each textbook the publisher sells as stated in ORC 3329.01:

**(A)** At the same time as filing the statement, the publisher also files:

(1) For textbooks published before August 18, 2006, the wholesale price of an electronic file that contains the text of the textbook in rich text format, or another electronic format approved by the superintendent of public instruction, for translating the text of the textbook into braille;

(2) For textbooks published on or after August 18, 2006, the wholesale price of an electronic file that contains the text of the textbook, and of all instructional materials the publisher offers with the textbook, in the national instructional materials accessibility standard (NIMAS) code for translating the text of the entire textbook into NIMAS-approved formats, including braille, audio, digital text, or large print.

**(B)** The list wholesale price filed for any specified number of electronic files described in divisions (A)(1) and (2) of this section for the textbook and instructional materials the publisher offers with the textbook does not exceed the list wholesale price for the same number of the printed version of the textbook and materials.

**(C)** For textbooks published on or after August 18, 2006, the publisher sends one copy of the electronic file described in division (A)(2) of this section for the entire textbook and all instructional materials the publisher offers with the textbook in NIMAS code, at no cost, to the national instructional materials access center. As used in this section and in sections 3329.03 to 3329.10 of the Revised Code, "electronic textbook" means computer software, interactive videodisc, magnetic media, optical media, computer courseware, on-line service, electronic medium, or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process through electronic means.

## ACCESSIBILITY

As stated in OAC 3301-51-21, (D), if an electronic textbook is not fully accessible on current computer platforms, or is not available as a print instructional material, then the publisher must provide NIMAS file sets to the National Instructional Materials Access Center. The electronic file must be sent to the National Instructional Materials Access Center in NIMAS code and in compliance with NIMAC *before* it can be approved and placed on Ohio's Approved Publisher's List.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Neither the State of Ohio nor the Ohio Department of Education endorse or recommend textbooks or publishers. Ohio is a local adoption state and school districts may choose the textbooks that best meet the needs of their curricula.

The Approved Textbook Publishers List is available on the [Adoption and Purchase of Textbooks page](#) of the Department's website.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

Send the required documents as soon as possible by email to Lacey Snoke at [lacey.snoke@education.ohio.gov](mailto:lacey.snoke@education.ohio.gov).

### QUESTIONS

For further information about the National Instructional Materials Access Center, please visit [www.nimac.us](http://www.nimac.us). Email questions about the approval process to [lacey.snoke@education.ohio.gov](mailto:lacey.snoke@education.ohio.gov).

