OER Fund 2024-25 Funding Round
General Information Session - October 21, 2024

We acknowledge that the UBC Vancouver Campus is situated within the traditional, Ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam.
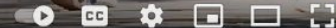
https://youtu.be/Lwciwt-gXoQ

Discover more Open Access Week sessions:

https://open.ubc.ca/open-access-week-2024/

OER Excellence and Impact Awards

The **OER Excellence and Impact Awards** are teaching and learning awards that recognize outstanding wo[rk] done by faculty at both UBC campuses who materially advance the use and impact of open educational resources in credit courses at UBC. The award program consists of **one individual** and **one team-based award** of $5,000 each year per campus.
https://open.ubc.ca/oer-award/

Call for nominations!

Today's Agenda

- OER at UBC and the Affordability of Course Resources

- OER Fund Details
  - OER Affordability Grants
  - OER Rapid Innovation Grants

- Consultation Session

OER FUND
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Open Educational Resources (OER) are **learning, teaching and research materials** in any format and medium that reside in the public domain or are under copyright that have been released under an open license, that permit **no-cost access, re-use, re-purpose, adaptation and redistribution** by others.
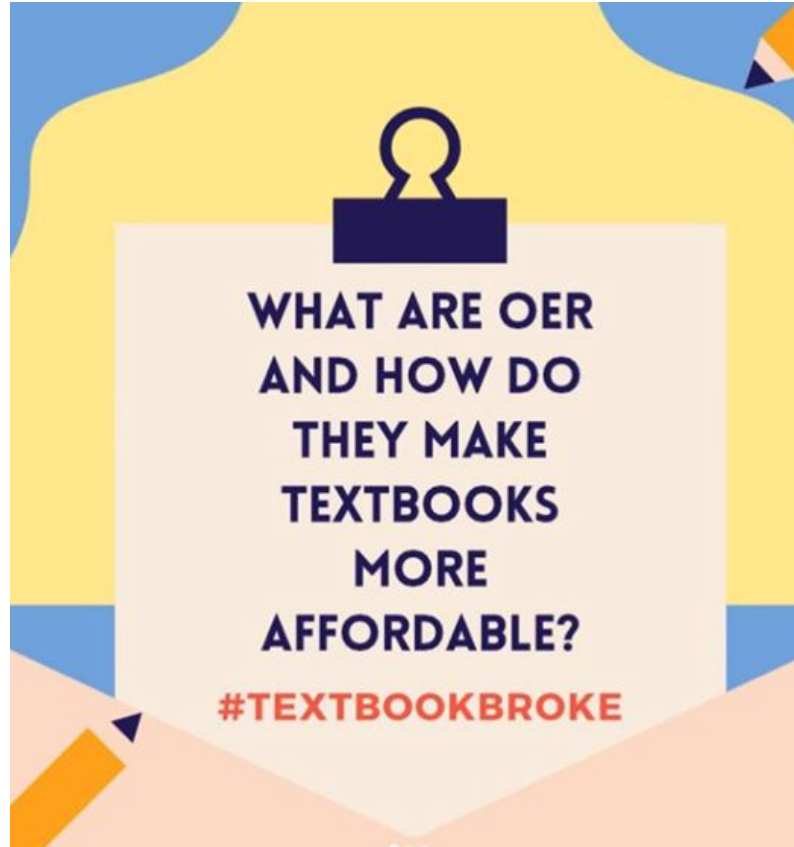
(UNESCO, n.d).

OER at UBCV

Strategic and Funding Support for OER

- **SAC** Guide to Reappointment, Promotion and Tenure: recognized contributions to OER as evidence of educational leadership.

- **UBC Strategic Plan:** "funding and support for continued growth in open educational resources…"

- **OER Fund:** "Increase the use of OER, including assessment materials, in UBC credit courses to reduce student costs for learning materials and assessments."

- **UBC Student Affordability Taskforce:** recommended the use of OER to help minimize the costs of educational materials

Student Advocacy

Affordability of Course Resources

According to the [2024 AMS Academic Experiences Survey](#) (n=4148):

- **65%** of students indicated they had bought a textbook or other course resource and didn't use it, or rarely used it.

- **29%** of undergraduates in the last year frequently or often went without textbooks or other course resources due to cost

- **27%** of students expressed financial hardship related to the costs of textbooks and course materials

- **51%** of respondents reported harboring feelings of worry in the past year that they wouldn't be able to afford adequate groceries

UBC

Fee-Based Digital Assessment Materials and Platforms

Students have advocating for policies that address affordability of fee based assessment materials and platforms:

- When instructors choose fee-based tools for assessment activities, use of those platforms represent an additional student fee beyond tuition. Bundling assessed and non-assessed materials also takes away the agency from students to choose how they access the non-assessed materials.

- In 2023, Policy V-131 came into effect. This policy limits the amount students can be charged for "Fee-based Digital Learning Tools Used for Assessment." Additionally, the policy states that by the 2028/29 academic year, such costs for students "will be eliminated, through continued development and adoption of Open Educational Resources (OERs) or by absorbing costs centrally and/or within Faculties."

OER Fund Details

The UBCV OER Fund

The UBCV OER Fund, established through the UBC Academic Excellence Fund in 2019, aims to support affordable and inclusive access to learning materials through:

- The adoption, adaptation, or creation of OER which address affordability and access to learning resources within UBCV credit based courses;

- Course enhancements using open educational resources, including assessment materials.

- Activities and events that seek to engage the UBCV community in increasing awareness and capacity for supporting OER.

OER Fund Principles

- Increase the creation, adaptation, adoption and integration of high-quality OER, including assessment materials, in UBC-V credit courses.

- Reduce student costs for learning materials and assessments.

- Enable instructors to modify, edit, or adapt high-quality OER to fit their unique specifications and goals in order to help provide meaningful, contextualized learning materials for UBC students.

- Engage with the UBC community to increase awareness of OER.

- Grow capacity at UBC to support and sustain OER activities.

2024/25 OER Fund Priorities

During this round of funding, we particularly welcome proposals that focus on the following areas:

- Projects that use OER to address the affordability of course materials and result in cost savings for students.
- Projects that increase the accessibility of course materials through the use of OER.
- Projects that enhance student learning through the innovative use of open pedagogies and open resources.
- Projects that have student involvement in the development and/or implementation of the OER.
- Projects that develop open test/quiz/problem banks and other interactive content that can be used for assessments.
- Projects that have high student impacts as indicated by student enrolment in courses where the resources will be used (as appropriate for the field of study).
- Projects that use OER in multi-section courses or multiple courses.

Grant Pathways

- *OER Rapid Innovation Grants*: Small grants of up to $2,000, which are available to the UBCV community for innovative activities that increase OER development, awareness, and capacity building.

- *OER Affordability Grants*: Large grants of up to $25,000 for UBCV faculty who wish to incorporate OER as required materials into their credit courses.

OER Rapid Innovation Grants

- Ongoing, non-competitive (~12 projects/yr)
- Open to all members of the UBCV Community
- Must be UBCV focused

Application deadline is rolling; proposals are reviewed every 4-6 weeks.

OER Affordability Grants

- Support the adoption, adaptation, creation, and/or integration of OER into credit-based courses.
- Grant proposals can request up to $25,000 (~7-8 projects funded/yr)
- Supports Faculty Course Release

Application deadline is January 16, 2025 at 3pm

Proposals will be reviewed on the following criteria:

- The extent to which the proposal provides a clear rationale, methodology, and objectives that align with the OER Fund Principles and Priorities
- The plans to meaningfully engage with equity, diversity and inclusion in terms of the proposed OER and/or the practices for its development, use, or reuse
- The articulation of project outputs that are well defined and achievable
- The alignment of the project with effective teaching and learning practices
- The plans for the evaluation and sustainment of any OER that is developed through the grant.

Requirements of Funded Proposals

- OER Rapid Innovation Grants must contain a primary focus on UBCV audiences or impacts.
- Resources developed with the support of the OER Fund must have an open copyright license (e.g., Creative Commons).
- If students develop the teaching and learning materials as a part of their coursework, appropriate communication and permissions must be provided
- Developed resources will follow the guidelines in the Open UBC OER Accessibility Toolkit.
- Grant recipients will provide a short written update at the conclusion of the project.

OER Accessibility Support Pilot

- Accessibility benefits all learners - even those who don't necessarily identify as having a disability

- Accessibility benefits instructors - "future-proofed" course materials that are more durable and easier to port to new/different platforms

- Accessibility benefits the OER development process - a few simple choices in early planning stages can save *lots* of time and labour later on

OER Resources To Share - We're Here To Support You

- OER Accessibility Toolkit: a great place to start! https://open.ubc.ca/oer-accessibility-toolkit

- ac.deger@ubc.ca - email any time with questions, for more resources/ideas, or to set up a Zoom consultation

- OER Accessibility Clinics on Zoom every other week - RSVP or just drop in!

Other OER Grants

Small TLEF

Supports grassroots projects that are intended to support experimentation with pedagogical approaches that have strong potential to enhance learning (up to $50,000).

2024/25 Priority Area - Inclusion

- Create, adapt, or integrate open educational resources to make education more affordable and accessible to students.

https://tlef.ubc.ca

Proposals Due: November 14th, 3pm

ALT-2040 Fund OER Stream

Available to eligible projects that focus on developing or adapting OER resources or incorporating open educational practices in one or more courses.

First established in 2015 as the Aspire Learning and Teaching (ALT) Fund, the Office of the Provost and Vice-President, Academic established the Aspire-2040 Learning Transformations Fund (ALT-2040 Fund) to accelerate the transformative learning recommendations of the Aspire Vision. The fund focused on transforming student learning through innovations implemented at the academic program level.

Project Support

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PROJECT

Who can support you?

- Students
- Colleagues
- Faculty Support Units
- LT Hub, UBC Studios, Emerging Media Lab
- UBC Library
- CTLT

OER Fund Consulting

Proposal Development Consultations
- The CTLT is offering **bi-weekly** online drop-in sessions for applicants who are planning on submitting OER Fund and TLEF project proposals through January 2025.

OER Accessibility Clinics
- Drop-in to chat one on one with specialists about how to design or adapt OER so they are accessible and open to all.

1:1 Consulting
- One on one or group consulting on any aspect of OER is available.

https://events.ctlt.ubc.ca/event-category/open-education/

Types of Support Available from the UBC Library & CTLT

- Idea and proposal consulting
- Funded Project Consulting
- Identification, Curation, and Evaluation of Existing OER
- Accessibility
- Project management & OER Development Best Practice Support
- Technology & Platform Support (e.g., Canvas, Wiki, PressBooks, OJS, WeBWorK, etc.)
- Copyright Review and Support for Third-Party Materials
- Instructional, Learning, Open Resource Design Support
- Course Integration Support
- Sharing, Archiving, and Discoverability Support
- Evaluation Consulting/Support

UBC

Project Impact Evaluation - Questions to Consider

Impact
- What are the specific benefits to student learning? To instructors?
- How will the benefits be sustained beyond the life of the project?

Evaluation
- What is the alignment between your stated objectives/impact and evaluation plan?
- How will you know whether you have achieved your goals?
- What evidence will you collect to demonstrate this?
- How might your evaluation approach inform revisions in an iterative manner through the life of the project?

More info available at https://oerfund.open.ubc.ca/eval-reporting/

https://oerfund.open.ubc.ca | oer.fund@ubc.ca

Consulting Session Starts