
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2021

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2020



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Nonpublic Textbook Services

Program Overview

Nonpublic Textbook Services provides reimbursement to public schools for the cost of textbooks provided to pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools, including special accredited college preparatory schools. Textbooks adopted and purchased by a public school district are to be made available to pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools upon request of the student or the student's parent. The funding for Nonpublic Textbook Services is used by public school districts to purchase nonsectarian textbooks for the use of pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools located within the boundaries of the public school district.

Funding for Nonpublic Textbook Services cannot be used for the following:

- Reimbursement to accredited nonpublic schools for purchases made by the accredited nonpublic schools.
- Sectarian textbooks.
- Teacher manuals or any other materials not available to the students attending the accredited nonpublic school.
- Any other expenditure that does not fit the definition of a textbook.

"Textbooks" is defined as books and loose-leaf or bound manuals; systems of reusable instructional materials or combinations of books and supplementary instructional materials which convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process; electronic textbooks, including but not limited to computer software, applications using computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodisc, other computer courseware and magnetic media; and laptop computers or other portable personal computing devices which are used for nonreligious instructional purposes only.

Funding

Nonpublic Textbook Services is funded through a General Fund appropriation. For the period of FY 2004 through FY 2013, the appropriation averaged \$610,000 annually. Funding for textbooks is limited to \$30 per pupil for nonpublic students and cannot exceed the funding for textbooks offered to public school pupils. The current annual appropriation is \$852,000.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [301](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [281—31.5](#)

Budget Unit Number

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More Information

Iowa Department of Education: educateiowa.gov

Nonpublic Textbook District Allocations: www.educateiowa.gov/data-reporting/data-reporting/certified-enrollment/nonpublic-schools-certified-enrollment/nonpublic

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