

Budget Unit Brief

FY 2017



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 pupil or the pupil'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 of 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, or any other expenditure that does not fit the definition of 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 that convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process; and electronic textbooks, including but not limited to computer software, applications using computer-assisted instruction, interactive videodiscs, other computer courseware and magnetic media, and laptop computers or other portable personal computing devices which are used for nonreligious instructional use only.

Funding

Funding for Nonpublic Textbook Services is provided 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 \$20 per pupil for nonpublic students and cannot exceed the funding for textbooks offered to public school pupils. Since FY 2015, the annual appropriation has been \$650,214.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [301](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [281—31.5](#)

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More Information

Iowa Department of Education: <http://educateiowa.gov/>

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

Iowa General Assembly: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/>

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