281—98.44(257,301) Nonpublic textbook services. Textbooks adopted and purchased by a school district will, to the extent funds are appropriated by the general assembly, be made available to pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools upon request of the pupil or the pupil's parent under comparable terms as made available to pupils attending public schools.

98.44(1) Appropriate uses of categorical funding. The appropriate use of the nonpublic textbook services funding is for the public school district to purchase nonsectarian textbooks for the use of pupils attending accredited nonpublic schools located within the boundaries of the public school district. "Textbooks" means the same as defined in Iowa Code section 301.1(3).

In the event that a participating accredited nonpublic school physically relocates to another school district, textbooks purchased for the nonpublic school with funds appropriated for that purpose in accordance with the Iowa Code will be transferred to the school district in which the accredited nonpublic school has relocated and may be made available to the accredited nonpublic school by the school district in which the nonpublic school has relocated. Funds distributed to a former school district for purposes of purchasing textbooks and that are unexpended will also be transferred from the former school district to the school district in which the accredited nonpublic school has relocated.

In the event that a participating accredited nonpublic school ceases operation, textbooks purchased for the nonpublic school with funds appropriated for that purpose in accordance with the Iowa Code will be returned to the public school district in which the nonpublic school was located. Funds provided for the purpose of purchasing textbooks for the nonpublic school that are unexpended will be reverted to the department of education.

98.44(2) Inappropriate uses of categorical funding. Inappropriate uses of nonpublic textbook services funding include reimbursements to accredited nonpublic schools for purchases made by the accredited nonpublic school, sectarian textbooks, computer hardware other than laptop computers or other portable personal computing devices that are used for nonreligious instructional use only, installation of hardware or other purchased services, 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. Funding provided for one nonpublic school located within the boundaries of the public school district will not be used for another accredited nonpublic school, even if the accredited nonpublic school is associated with the same parent organization. [ARC 7802C, IAB 4/17/24, effective 5/22/24]