How to Implement OER as an Institution

Measure Success by Outcomes, Not Actions

- Number of students using OER
- Percentage of student population using OER
- Number of faculty using OER
- Student success metrics

Focus on Scale

Focus on high enrollment courses where student impact can be the greatest.

Start with Easy Wins

Focus on already-developed OER to start impacting students as soon as possible.

Designate a Leader

Designate a single person as responsible for the success of the initiative.

Involve Everyone

Involve everyone, including senior administrators, faculty, librarians, the bookstore, instructional designers, students, etc.

Implement Multiple Approches

Use a variety of strategies and incentives to reach and encourage adoption.

Protect Academic Freedom

Switching to OER should be a choice, not a requirement.

Specific Strategies

Complete no less than eight of these or other strategies.

🤝 Show Support

• Demonstrate high level support for OER through advocacy from a senior administrator's office, including distributing information on OER training days.

• Ask your Student Government Association to get involved and show support to faculty who adopt OER.

🏋 Train

• Host OER training sessions or webinars and incorporate these sessions into existing training days when possible.

• Give presentations at department meetings. Give an overview of OER and provide a list of quality OER in the department's subject areas.

• Encourage faculty to participate actively in presentations by asking them to access an OER book on their devices.

💰 Incentivize

• Provide dedicated instructional design and library support time for faculty who adopt OER.

• Offer adoption grants. Focus on high enrollment courses and easily adoptable books to have the most impact.

• Reward faculty in evaluations and tenure decisions for incorporating innovative teaching techniques, such as the use of OER.

👆 Try It

• Ask faculty to review just one chapter to start.

• Ask department chairs and your faculty senate for suggestions of innovative faculty members who might pilot an OER textbook in one or all of their courses.

• Encourage faculty to recommend an OER textbook as an additional resource or study aid for their courses.

• Purchase physical versions of OER textbooks to show as visuals during presentations and to create displays.

👍 Testimonials

• Feature faculty advocates of OER who use open content in their courses. Ask them to speak at conferences and other events about OER and to encourage other faculty to adopt.

• Feature testimonials from students who have benefited from using OER.

• Highlight other institutions utilizing OER. For a list of institutions adopting OpenStax, visit openstax.org/adopters.

✉ Contact

For information about implementing OER as an institution, contact **Nicole Finkbeiner at nicolef@rice.edu.**