

FAQ – Textbook and Course Material Information

Why must I submit all of my textbook and course material information to the Augusta University JagStore?

- The Higher Education and Opportunity Act, (HEOA) requires that the University post all textbook and course material information to include ISBN number and price prior to the start of registration. The JagStore has the responsibility for ensuring that all information is posted. Please be sure to submit all information (to include access codes, supplies and courses with no materials required) to the JagStore, even if it is not an item that will be sold through the JagStore.
- It is important to note that many students rely on financial aid or grants to purchase or rent their course materials. These students are permitted to charge their books and materials directly to their student account only at the JagStore. The JagStore also exclusively supplies all dual enrolled students with their course materials.

Why do you need my textbook and course material requisitions so early?

When the JagStore has your textbook and course material information in hand, they are able to save our students money:

- The JagStore is able to pay your current students much more for their textbooks at the end of semester book buy back. Students receive up to 50% of the purchase price for books that have been adopted for an upcoming semester, are in the current edition, and are not over-stocked at the bookstore. When we have not received your adoption information, the students must sell their books to a used book wholesaler at a much lower rate, often less than 15% of the purchase price. It is also important to note that your next academic session students will have access to many more used textbooks if we can buy them back from current students.
- The JagStore is able to make more books available as rentals. Renting a book is significantly cheaper than purchasing a book.

- The JagStore is able to search for more used book inventory from many more outlets.
- It allows the University to stay in compliance with the HEOA.
- It allows more time to research edition status and availability from the publisher.

Do I need to submit information if I am using an Access Code?

Yes, many students rely on financial aid or grants to purchase their course materials. These students are permitted to charge their materials directly to their student account only at the JagStore. Also the HEOA requires that all materials for a course are posted prior to the start of registration.

Do I need to submit information if I am using Free Open Access materials?

Yes, please indicate that no textbook is required in the Verba Collect application and enter the url for the material in the notes field. We will share this link with your students when they are looking for their course materials in store or online.

Can the JagStore supply my students with an e-book?

Yes, we can provide e-books from most publishers and also partner with RedShelf, which is a digital textbook provider. You may view the special Augusta University RedShelf site here: <https://jagstore.redshelf.com/>

What if my students need a special non-textbook supply item?

Please share any special supply items when you submit your course material information. There is a special section in the Verba Collect system where you can list items. This will allow students who rely on financial aid or grants to charge their supply items directly to their student account.

How much do students spend on textbooks?

Textbook and course material costs can represent as much as 40% of our students' educational expense on our campus.

Where does the money students spend on textbooks at the JagStore go?

The JagStore is owned and operated by Augusta University. It is a department of the University much like your department where the staff are all employees of the University. The JagStore uses the sale of textbooks and merchandise to cover the JagStore employee wages, utility and housekeeping expenses, and other operational costs. The JagStore typically breaks even at the end of each fiscal year.

What can I do to help students save money on textbooks?

The JagStore is dedicated to reducing the cost of textbooks and course materials to our students, but we need your help:

- Use caution when adopting special packages or bundles with special software or free items for our students from the publishers. While these may appear to offer a special value, when all is considered, the bundled package is generally more expensive. Packages and bundles almost eliminate our ability to offer a rental option or to locate used textbooks. Used textbooks are 25% cheaper and bundles are difficult or impossible to purchase back from students at the end of the semester. Additionally, publisher packages and bundles are often not assembled until we place the order, causing delays in receiving, particularly troublesome for re-orders.
- Consider using a title for the life of the edition or longer. This allows the bookstore to locate more used copies and purchase more copies back from our students at higher values. Notably, it also allows students to share textbooks among themselves more readily.
- Consider partnering with your colleagues and adopt the same textbook for all or most sections of a course. This makes sharing of textbooks among students easier and also helps the bookstore locate more used copies of textbooks.
- Consider the price of the textbook when making your adoption decisions. The Verba Collect adoption system can help you choose the most affordable materials.
- Consider making some textbooks “Optional” instead of “Required”. We will indicate to our students that the book is optional prior to their purchase.
- Submit textbook and course material requisitions to the JagStore as soon as possible. This allows us to search for used textbooks from more sources for a longer period of time. Used textbooks are 25% cheaper than new textbooks and are the most effective way to reduce student textbook expenses. It also allows the JagStore to secure additional titles for the rental textbook program.
- Consider adopting open access materials.

- Consider adopting digital or e-books. View our RedShelf partner site here: <https://jagstore.redshelf.com/>
- Notify the JagStore if you are requiring any special materials for class. We have many students who visit us asking for special editions and/or materials listed on their syllabus but we have no knowledge about the items. The more you share with us, the better we will be able to help our students obtain the materials they need to help complete your classes successfully.

It is not our intention to influence your course material choices. We only want to make you aware of potential issues which can influence the cost of textbooks to our students.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Jagstore.
Thank you!

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