

Ohio

MIDWEST OER SUMMIT – JANUARY 2024

OVERVIEW

Ohio has outlined textbook affordability as a priority since 2017. OhioLINK, the statewide higher education library consortium is a member of the Ohio Technology Consortium(OH-TECH) within the Ohio Department of Higher Education and has been tasked with developing strategies that improve textbook affordability in Ohio. OER has been one of our main strategies. As a state, we have worked on statewide grants to curate content for 23 high enrollments college courses. We have developed a statewide OER repository, the OhioLINK Open Course Content Library. We have developed an annual statewide conference focused on promoting and using Open Education to improve teaching and learning outcomes (OpenCon Ohio). Currently, we provide small grants to faculty to explore the use of OER in their courses. We continue to work together as a state to define new OER strategies.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *OhioLINK OER Mini-Grants - 116 faculty from 46 institutions have received OER grants to explore converting their course materials for a specific course to no-cost alternatives.*
- *Since 2022, 24,988 Students had the potential to save \$1.3M+ when faculty converted to OER textbooks as a result of OhioLINK affordable learning initiatives.*
- *InfOhio (Ohio's PreK-12 digital library) uploaded 25,000 new instructional materials to the OpenSpace Platform.*

NEXT BIG THINGS

- *OhioLINK announced first cohort of OER-specialist librarians to support faculty by helping to identify open teaching materials. Nine member librarians will be the first to receive scholarships for Open Education Network's 9-month certification program in 2024.*
- *Faculty OER creation grants – wishlist!*

WAYS MHEC CAN HELP

- *Funding for faculty grants*
- *Professional development for faculty, librarians, instructional designers and administrators.*
- *Annual meetings to hear from other states on their accomplishments and challenges.*

