

AB 798: College Textbook Affordability Act of 2015

What is AB 798?

- Introduced by Assemblymember Susan Bonilla, signed into law October 2015
- State grant program that establishes Open Educational Resources Adoption Incentive Program
 - Incentivize campus and faculty efforts towards adopting Open Educational Resources (OERs) at CCs and CSUs
- OERs are high quality, openly licensed, online educational materials
 - Online textbooks
 - Research articles/videos
 - Assessments/simulations
- Funding from SB 1052 which created the California OER Council
 - \$4 million from General Fund
- Support: Academic Senate for CCC, TechNet, CCCCCO, CSSA, CSU, CCLC, Cerritos Community College District, OpenStax

How will it help us?

- Average community college student pays \$1,300 annually for textbooks
 - Almost 40% of total cost of attendance for community college

AB 798 will...

- Drastically reduce the cost for textbooks
- Increase accessibility to classroom materials
- Encourage students who receive BOG fee waivers to take classes with expensive textbooks

Steps to obtain AB 798 Grant Funds:

- 1) Research AB 798. Collaborate with your EA Senator!
 - a) Use the [SSCCC-provided AB 798 factsheet](#)
- 2) Pass the AB 798 resolution through your ASO
 - a) Use the [SSCCC-provided AB 798 ASO Resolution template](#)
- 3) Work with a member from your Academic Senate to introduce your resolution before June 30, 2016
 - a) Use the [SSCCC-provided AB 798 Academic Senate Resolution template](#)
- 4) Follow up with Academic Senate to submit the resolution as an application to receive funding



Grassroots Organizing 101

In order to ensure that your resolution passes, put a bit of friendly pressure on your Academic Senate! Here are a couple tips on how to mobilize your student body:

- During your Academic Senate's meeting, have students highlight their personal struggles in purchasing expensive textbooks.
- Encourage them to spotlight how they could've used those funds on other ventures, such as affording additional courses.
- **Narratives are key.** By doing this, you will inform your Academic Senate on the importance of saving students' money.



Questions? Please contact:

Your Regional External Affairs Senator

Vice President of External Affairs Victor Costa at vpea@studentsenateccc.org

External Affairs Committee Chair Alex Galeana at

alex.galeana@studentsenateccc.org