What does that textbook really cost?

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First-year students reported spending 40% more than seniors.

$240

What can Faculty do?

- Review the cost of course materials you are assigning each year.
- Allow students to use older editions of textbooks.
- Educate students about Library course reserves on your syllabus.
- Consider choosing openly licensed materials when designing or redesigning a course, which can be adapted to suit your syllabus.
- For more information about Open Educational Resources (OER): https://libguides.bates.edu/scholarly-communications/OER

First-Generation college students are spending an average of $95.00 more per semester on their course materials than their peers. They reported spending 44% more than non-first-generation students.

First-generation college students are 29% more likely and Pell Grant recipients are 33% more likely to struggle academically because they could not access the books they needed for class.

We asked students:

- How much did books cost you this semester? (textbooks, novels, ebooks) Average response: $240
- How much do you feel is reasonable to pay for all books and required course materials for a single class? Most common response: $50
- What measures are students taking to reduce the cost of their required course materials?
  - 53% of students do not think that their institution pays attention to the cost of course materials
  - I would rather pay $10 to $30 for a book than pirate it off the internet, but anything over 50 I would much rather dig around on the internet for and pirate

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$50

For more information about the results of the 2022 Survey, see the campus report-out archived in SCARAB: https://scarab.bates.edu/ils_scholarship/10/

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