

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of the State Board of Education Agenda Items
December 18, 2025

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION/TEXTBOOK OFFICE

D. Action: Approval of textbooks as recommended by the 2025 State Textbook Rating Committee for adoption in the areas of Health and Physical Education (K-12), Career Technical Education (9-12), and Science (K-12). - Fiscal Year 2026. [Goal Numbers 1 and 2 – MBE Strategic Plan]

Awarded Vendors: See Attached List

Scope of Project: Miss. Code Ann. § 37-43-21 mandates the formation of rating committees in each of the fields in which textbooks are considered for adoption and to make subsequent recommendations to the State Board of Education of instructional materials to be adopted. Pursuant to Section 7-43-21, “the SBE shall have the power to reject any and all recommendations of the rating committees and to call for further recommendations: in no case shall the Board adopt any book not recommended by the rating committees.”

The Mississippi Department of Education, through the Office of Curriculum and Instruction, conducted textbook adoptions in Health and Physical Education (K-12), Career Technical Education (9-12), and Science (K-12).

Textbooks/instructional materials were reviewed in the following categories:

- Health and Physical Education (K-12)
- Career Technical Education (9-12)
- Science (K-12)

The state rating committee may recommend as many as eight titles in each instructional category. An item is not rated if it does not meet the following criteria:

1. The title must meet the definition of a textbook as defined in Section 37-43-1 of the *Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated*. A textbook shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction that contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and that constitutes a major instructional vehicle of that subject.
2. The materials in the textbook must provide comprehensive coverage of the course content as outlined in the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards and meet the mandated competencies in the rating committee rubric.

Personnel associated with this contract are not former Department employees or related to any Department employee.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached

**Textbooks/Instructional Materials Recommended by the
State Textbook Rating Committees**

CONTRACTORS NAME	TITLES
Health and Physical Education	
CATCH Global Austin, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health GR K-8: Health Ed Journeys • Physical Education GR K-8: Journeys
Goodheart-Wilcox Company, Inc Tinley Park, IL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health GR 6-8: Essentials Health Skills for Middle School • Physical Education GR K-8: Fitness and Wellness Skills
Human Kinetics Champaign, IL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health GR 6-8: Live Well Middle School • Physical Education GR 9-12: Fitness for Life
McGraw-Hill LLC Columbus, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health GR 6-8: Teen Health • Health GR 9-12: High School Health
QuaverEd, Inc Nashville, TN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health GR K-8: QuaverHealth • Physical Education GR K-8: QuaverPE
Career Technical Education	
Cengage Learning, Inc. Mason, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Science GR 9-12: DHO Health Science • Health Care and Clinical Services GR 9-12: Medical Assisting: Administrative and Clinical Competencies • Sports Medicine GR 9-12: Sports Medicine Essentials
CEV Multimedia, LLC Lubbock, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multimedia GR 9-12: Business, Marketing, Finance, IT & Media • Unmanned Aircraft Systems: Introduction to Unmanned Aircraft Systems; Advanced Unmanned Aircraft Systems, Applications of Unmanned Aircraft Systems, and Foundations of Unmanned Aircraft Systems • Health Science GR 9-12: Health Science • Health Care and Clinical Services GR 9-12: Health Science
Goodheart-Wilcox Company, Inc Tinley Park, IL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast GR 9-12: Television Production and Broadcast Journalism • Digital Design GR 9-12: Graphic Communications • Digital Video Production GR 9-12: Video: Digital Communications and Production • Health Science GR 9-12: Introduction to Health Science • Health Care and Clinical Services GR 9-12: Introduction to Health Science

Human Kinetics Champaign, IL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Medicine GR 9-12: Fundamentals of Athletic Training and Sports Medicine
McGraw-Hill LLC Columbus, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Science GR 9-12: Careers and Basics of Health Science • Sports Medicine GR 9-12: The Role of the Athletic Trainer in Sports Medicine
Pearson Education, Inc. Hoboken, NJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Design: Principles of Graphic Design • Health Science GR 9-12: Anatomy, Physiology, & Disease; Health Science: Fundamentals • Health Care and Clinical Services GR 9-12: Nursing Careers: Foundational Concepts and Skills
Science	
Accelerate Learning Houston, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR K-8: STEMScopes
Activate Learning Greenwich, CT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 6-8: OpenSciEd • Science GR 9-12: OpenSciEd Biology, OpenSciEd Chemistry, OpenSciEd Physics
Bedford, Freeman, and Worth Gordonsville, VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: Achieve for Living by Chemistry • AP Science: Achieve for Biology, Achieve for Environmental Science, Achieve for College Physics
Cengage Learning, Inc. Mason, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: Biology, World of Chemistry, Physics, Earth and Space Science, Environmental Science, Oceanography • AP Science: Biology, Chemistry, Exploring Environmental Science, Physics for Scientists and Engineers, College Physics, Achieve for College Physics
ExploreLearning Dallas, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR K-5: Science4US
Goodheart-Wilcox Company, Inc Tinley Park, IL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Boston, MA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 6-8: Into Science • Science GR 9-12: Science Dimensions Biology, Science Dimensions Earth

McGraw-Hill LLC Columbus, OH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 6-8: <i>Inspire Science</i> • Science GR 9-12: <i>Inspire Biology, Introductory Plant Biology, Zoology, Inspire Chemistry, Inspire Physical Science, Inspire Physics, Inspire Earth Science, Principles of Environmental Science, Marine Science, Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology, Human Genetics</i> • AP Science: <i>AP Biology, AP Chemistry</i>
Myriad Sensors Brentwood, TN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: <i>Conceptual Academy Biology, Conceptual Academy Foundations of Biology, Conceptual Academy Chemistry, Conceptual Physical Science, Conceptual Academy Physics, Conceptual Academy Earth and Space Science</i>
PASCO Scientific Roseville, CA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 6-8: <i>OpenSciEd</i> • Science GR 9-12: <i>OpenSciEd</i>
Pearson Education, Inc. Hoboken, NJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: <i>Campbell Biology, Introductory Chemistry, Conceptual Integrated Science, Conceptual Physics, Essentials of Oceanography, Human Anatomy and Physiology</i> • AP Science: <i>Campbell Biology in Focus, Chemistry, Environment, Physics, College Physics</i>
SAVVAS Learning Company, LLC Paramus, NJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 9-12: <i>Miller & Levine Biology, Experience Chemistry, Experience Physics, Environmental Science</i>
School Specialty Greenville, WI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR K-5: <i>FOSS Mississippi Science</i>
Stile Education Portland, OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science GR 6-8: <i>Stile Science</i>

MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972

As Amended

Section 37-43-1. Purpose of chapter; distribution of textbooks to schools and pupils; definition of "board" and "textbook".

- (1) This chapter is intended to furnish a plan for the adoption, purchase, distribution, care and use of free textbooks to be loaned to the pupils in all elementary and high schools, other than charter schools, of Mississippi.
- (2) The books herein provided by the State Board of Education, which shall be the State Textbook Procurement Commission, shall be distributed and loaned free of cost to the children of the free public school districts of the state and of all other schools located in the state, which maintain educational standards equivalent to the standards established by the State Department of Education for the state schools as outlined in the Approval Requirements of the State Board of Education for Nonpublic Schools.
- (3) Teachers shall permit all pupils in all grades of any public school in any school district to carry to their homes for home study, the free textbooks loaned to them, and any other regular textbooks whether they be free textbooks or not.
- (4) For the purposes of this chapter, the term "board" shall mean the State Board of Education.
- (5) "Textbook" shall be defined as any medium or manual of instruction which contains a systematic presentation of the principles of a subject and which constitutes a major instructional vehicle for that subject.
- (6) In addition to the authority granted in this chapter, local school boards shall make available to the parents or legal guardians of any children of school age who reside in the school district administered by the school board, upon request, any textbooks on the state surplus inventory list. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the return of the textbook(s) to the local school district upon completion of the textbook(s) use. Failure to return the textbook(s) to the school district will result in the parents or legal guardians being responsible for compensating the school district for the fair market value of the textbook(s).

MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972

As Amended

Section 37-43-21 - Textbook rating committees; disposition of sample textbooks; use of textbook allotment for repair of textbooks; prices for new textbook purchases

(1) For the purpose of assisting the board during an adoption, there shall be rating committees in each of the fields in which textbooks are considered for adoption. Each committee shall be composed of seven (7) members. The State Superintendent of Public Education shall appoint four (4) members of each of the committees, each of whom shall be a competent, experienced teacher who is currently teaching in the field in which the textbooks are considered for adoption. The Governor of the State of Mississippi thereupon shall appoint three (3) members of each of said committees, who shall be persons he deems competent to participate in the appraisal of books offered for adoption, in each field, for use in the public schools of this state.

(2) It shall be the duty of said rating committees to appraise the books offered for adoption in each field in which textbooks are offered for adoption and recommend eight (8) books and/or series for each adoption to be made by the board and giving the reasons for or basis of such recommendations. No book shall be recommended which does not receive a majority vote of the members of each committee. Any member dissenting from any majority vote of the committee shall make his appraisal of any book recommended or rejected by the majority of the committee and specify the reasons therefor and make such recommendations as he thinks proper. All appraisals, recommendations, and dissents if any, shall be in writing and filed with the board for its consideration upon the adoption. The travel expenses of such committees shall be reimbursed in the amount as provided in Section 25-3-41 and shall be paid out of the State Textbook Fund. Such rating committees shall be subject to the provisions of Section 37-43-17. The board shall have the power to reject any and all recommendations of the rating committees and to call for further recommendations; in no case shall the board adopt any book not recommended by the rating committees.

(3) Any and all sample textbooks that may be furnished by the publisher thereof as provided by Section 37-43-59 to any member of the board, the State Superintendent of Public Education, and any member of a rating committee shall within one (1) year after receipt of same by said member be turned in to the Regional School Book Depository without cost to the State of Mississippi, and the same shall thereafter be used without any cost to the State of Mississippi in supplying free textbooks to the educable children of the State of Mississippi as now provided by law or shall be sold to the highest bidder by the board with the proceeds immediately deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the State Textbook Fund.

(4) No state official, state employee, school board member, school superintendent, principal, teacher or any other individual shall sell or donate sample textbooks furnished them by the Regional School Book Depository as part of the textbook adoption or selection process. Said individuals and public officials shall not receive payment by the regional depository, any publisher or any other company for sample textbooks.

(5) School districts may annually utilize any portion of the textbook allotment for the repair of textbooks; provided, however, that school districts are authorized and encouraged to utilize the Mississippi Department of Corrections bookbinder for the repair of textbooks.

(6) Prices for new textbook purchases shall not be higher than the lowest price at which books are sold anywhere in the United States, after all discounts are allowed.

MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972

As Amended

Section 37-43-23 - Procedure for purchase of textbooks from publishers; distribution of books

The State Board of Education is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to advertise for and receive sealed bids for textbooks. Bidders shall quote their lowest net wholesale prices, f.o.b. destination being the board-authorized regional depository. The board may, in its discretion, establish a state depository or approve regional depositories located in reasonable proximity to the state, or inaugurate any other plan for the distribution of books. Such prices shall not be higher than the lowest price at which books are sold anywhere in the United States, after all discounts are allowed. It is the intent of the Legislature that the price paid for a textbook shall not exceed the lowest price at which the same book, both having the same copyright date, is sold anywhere in the United States after all discounts are allowed. Every contract entered into under the provisions of this section by the board and any publisher or publishing company shall contain a provision that the publisher covenants and agrees that he is not furnishing under contract executed after the first day of January of the year in which the contract becomes effective, to any state, county or school district in the United States, the textbooks embraced in the contract at a price below the price stipulated therein. At any time that the board may find that any book or books, in either regular or special editions, are being furnished in any other state at a lower price under contract than it is being furnished in Mississippi, the contract shall be forfeited to the state. Any contractor who violates this provision shall return all money paid out for such book or books and also forfeit such book or books to the state, and suit may be brought on the bond of the contractor for all losses sustained.

Successful bidders or contractors may maintain a depository at a place within the State of Mississippi or within a regional area located in reasonable proximity to the state, to be named by the board, where a stock of books sufficient to meet all reasonable and immediate demands shall be kept. Upon requisition of the board, an approved depository shall ship books, transportation charges paid, to the various shipping points in Mississippi to be specified by the board. For such service the depository shall make no charge to the board except the actual cost of transportation from the depository to the shipping point designated. The cost of distribution shall not exceed eight percent (8%) of the total appropriation for any fiscal year.

All books furnished the State of Mississippi by contractors under this chapter shall continue to measure up to the same standards as are required in the contract, said standards to include printing, binding, cover boards, mechanical makeup, and any other relevant points as set out in the plans and specifications as fixed by the board. Any contractor of any book or books, who fails to keep said books up to said standards, shall forfeit, not only his contract to the state, but shall return all money paid out for such book or books and also forfeit said books to the state.

MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972

As Amended

Section 37-43-31 - Selection of books by local school districts

(1) The State Board of Education shall adopt and furnish textbooks only for use in those courses set up in the state course of study as recommended by the State Accreditation Commission and adopted by such board, or courses established by acts of the Legislature. In all subjects the board, in its discretion, may adopt textbooks and/or series from those recommended by the textbook rating committees. The board may adopt a plan which permits the local school districts to choose the book or books to be requisitioned from those adopted, provided:

- (a) That, when a book is furnished by the state, it shall remain in use during the period of its adoption;
- (b) That the average per pupil cost of textbooks so furnished any unit shall not exceed that allowed for all other units in the state;
- (c) That nothing herein provided shall be construed as giving any school the authority to discard or replace usable copies of textbooks now being furnished by the state;
- (d) That the State Department of Education is authorized to disburse the annual textbook appropriation directly to the public school districts in accordance with paragraph (b) of this subsection. The textbooks procured through this chapter, as well as textbooks which are on hand on June 30, 1994, which were previously purchased through the provisions of this statute, shall become the property of the public school district which purchased them, unless the State Department of Education authorizes the transfer of unneeded textbooks to another location in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education;
- (e) That textbooks which are on loan to other than public schools as referenced in Section 37-43-1, shall remain the property of the State of Mississippi. All requisitions for textbooks from these schools shall be submitted to the State Department of Education to be processed and subsequently shipped to the requesting school. No funds shall be disbursed directly from the State Department of Education to the schools in this category for the purpose of procuring textbooks; and
- (f) That funds made available through this chapter may be used to purchase any state-adopted textbook from any board-approved depository, directly from the publisher, or in accordance with the provisions of Sections 37-43-21(5) and 37-43-31(3). For purchases made directly from the publisher, the public school district, or the State Department of Education when purchasing for other than public schools, shall not pay a higher price for a textbook than that listed on the current state-adopted list.

(2) Whenever any book under contract is displaced by a new adoption, the board may continue to require the schools to use the recently purchased books from any previous adoption; however, such period of use shall not exceed four (4) years.

(3) If five (5) or more school boards petition the State Board of Education to add a book, or a series of books, to the approved list of state adoptions in a given subject area, then the State Superintendent of Public Education shall have sixty (60) days to show cause to the State Board of Education why the books in question should or should not be purchased with state funds. If the petition is not acted upon within the sixty-day period, the petition shall be deemed to be approved. Once a textbook has been approved through the petition process, any public school district or

eligible other school may procure the said textbook utilizing funds appropriated through this chapter.

(4) If new and innovative textbooks that would improve a particular course of study become available between adoption cycles, a school board may petition the State Board of Education for permission to purchase these books out of sequence to be paid for with state textbook funds.

(5) The State Board of Education shall not allow previously rejected textbooks to be used if such textbooks were rejected for any of the following reasons:

- (a) Obscene, lewd, sexist or vulgar material;
- (b) Advocating prejudicial behavior or actions; or
- (c) Encouraging acts determined to be derogatory to any race, sex or religion.

(6) All books or series of books adopted under the petition procedures of this chapter shall be purchased under the provisions for bidding, pricing and distribution as prescribed in Section 37-43-23.

(7) Petition procedure books or series of books adopted under this section shall be considered only until the date of the next regular adoption series in the applicable subject area. Petition procedure books shall be submitted for formal adoption at the next applicable regular textbook adoption as prescribed under the provisions of Chapter 43, Title 37, Mississippi Code of 1972; otherwise, such books adopted under the petition procedures which do not receive formal adoption approval as recommended by the textbook rating committee shall be dropped from the state textbook petition adoption list. Provided, however, this provision shall in no way prohibit a school district from using other funds, federal or local, for the purchase of such books.