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### Introduction

The Ministry of Advanced Education, assisted by BCcampus, is contributing to the development of an open future for educational resources and teaching practices by encouraging the use of Open Educational Resources and open applications wherever possible. To that end, we are pleased to announce the third phase of the B.C. Open Textbook Program – a call for proposals to create new open textbooks.

The Ministry of Advanced Education funds the B.C. Open Textbook Program, and BCcampus is tasked with managing it. The goal is to provide flexible and affordable access to higher education resources in B.C. by making available 40 openly licensed textbooks in the first and second year most highly enrolled undergraduate subject areas. These texts will be available for selection by B.C. faculty, and digital versions of the texts will be free of charge to students. Print copies will also be available at a moderate cost.

### Synopsis of Phase 3

In phase 1 of the project, we harvested a number of existing open textbooks and worked with B.C. post-secondary faculty to review them. The review process enabled us to provide texts for 12 of the top 40 subject areas, with some areas having more than one text.

Phase 2 of our project, which is still ongoing and overlaps with Phase 3, involves instructors adapting existing open resources to produce modified open textbooks.

In Phase 3, we are looking for instructors to create new open textbooks from scratch in areas eligible for funding. These new texts will be produced using only new materials or appropriate openly licensed content. No copyrighted third-party materials will be used.

### Criteria for successful proposals

Successful proposals will meet the following mandatory criteria:

- address one of the eligible subject areas listed in the appendix,
- document any existing Open Educational Resources to be used in the new work,
- exhibit the characteristics of quality teaching and learning,
- demonstrate sustainability and cost-effectiveness,
- demonstrate collaboration within a single institution and/or between two or more B.C. public post secondary institutions,
- the final product must have an open license (Creative Commons Attribution CC-BY),
- be accompanied by a commitment to adopt the completed text in the proponent's own course(s),
- include a budget documenting the use of the funding being requested.

The following criteria are preferred, but not mandatory:

- Preference will be given to proposals that will impact large numbers of students across multiple institutions.
- Preference will be given to proposals that include the provision of resources necessary to complete the project, such as the assistance of an instructional designer, multimedia developer, and editor. If the applicant uses available resources, it promotes more institutional buy-in to the project and thus the potential for more adoption. However, if you are unable to provide these resources, BCcampus will provide them for you.
- We encourage reuse of existing openly-licensed materials created by B.C. faculty and stored in SOLR.

Proposals will be funded in one of two ways:

- via a contract with the submitter as an individual instructor collaborating with other individual instructors, independent of his or her institution (please ensure there are no restrictions with respect to your collective agreement);
- via a contract with the submitter as a representative of an institution collaborating with other institutional representatives (please ensure there are no restrictions around this process).

### Application Process

The application form should be completed and e-mailed to: [opentext@bccampus.ca](mailto:opentext@bccampus.ca).

While the application form provides the basic information required, those wishing to submit more detail can attach appendices as required. Successful evaluation is facilitated by proposals that are well written and specifically address guideline requirements.

Because proposals will include multiple institutional partners, you must designate a lead institution for the project and submit the proposal through the lead. Institutional partners should include a letter of support identifying names and roles of participants.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **Feb 28, 2014**.

### Resources

- List of eligible subject areas
- Application Form
- Questions and Answers

### Review and Selection Process

Evaluation, selection, and awards are done via independent professional peer review, against a rubric based on the set of criteria listed above.

### Project Requirements

For funding to be released, projects must be completed on time, and must include all source files used in creating the textbook (including any multimedia files) to easily enable further remixing.

Final versions should be delivered in all of the following formats: high quality PDF (suitable for printing), ePub, and HTML. BCcampus will provide support in meeting these technical specifications. In addition, final versions must be openly licensed.

### Important Dates

**Feb 28, 2014:** deadline for applications.

**Sept 5, 2014:** deadline for completed projects.

If you have any further questions, please email them to [opentext@bccampus.ca](mailto:opentext@bccampus.ca).

## Appendices - Resources

### Resource 1: Eligible Subject Areas for Type Three Creations

These are the areas in which we have found no existing open resources with which to begin an adaptation, therefore we are requesting textbooks be created (please check against [bccampus.ca](http://bccampus.ca) for an up-to-date list):

1. Year One Criminology
2. Year One Anthropology
3. Year One Human Resources and Organizational Behaviour
4. Year One Visual Arts, Media and Design
5. Year Two Visual Arts, Media and Design
6. Year One Political Science
7. Year Two Political Science
8. Year Two Accounting
9. Year Two Economics
10. Year Two Biology
11. Year Two English
12. Year Two Communications
13. Year Two Sociology
14. Year Two Applied Science

## Resource 2: Application Form for Type Three Adaptations:

Please note: **this form is for reference only**. Please download the Word document found on our web site at [bccampus.ca/open-textbook-project/](http://bccampus.ca/open-textbook-project/).

<b>1. Textbook Topic</b> (include learning outcomes to be addressed)			
<b>2. LEAD INSTITUTION/INDIVIDUAL:</b>  <b>Lead Contact Person</b> Name: Title: Telephone: E-mail: Course in which text will be used:  Approximate number of student impacted			
<b>3. COLLABORATORS</b> (Name the faculty with whom you will collaborate on this open textbook). State what each collaborator is contributing, in what course the adapted text will be used.			
Collaborator Name	Organization	Contribution	Course in which text will be used
Additional Information:			



## Resource 3: Questions and Answers

**Q1: I don't know what kind of textbook you are looking to have created because the subject areas are too broad.**

A: We kept the subjects broad because we wanted to ensure the subjects chosen were taught in the largest number of B.C. post-secondary institutions. We are looking for texts that fit into those subject areas and would be of value to the largest number of students. For example, in the category of Year One Geography, a text that addresses a subject that is taught across many institutions would be more useful to the system than one that is only taught at one or two institutions.

**Q2: I have found a textbook for a subject that's not on the list. Can I submit a proposal to adapt or create that one instead?**

A: At this time, we are only funding textbooks that fall into those subject areas on the list.

**Q3: Why must my work have a Creative Commons License?**

A: Our project is committed to [openly licensing](#) the works that are produced so that the largest number of students is able to benefit from them.

**Q4: Do I retain copyright to my work? Will I get credited for it?**

A: Yes, you will retain copyright to your work, however as part of the contract between you and the Open Textbook Project, you will be required to issue a Creative Commons reuse license (see Q3) which enables the four R's of openness, reuse, revise, remix, redistribute. You will be credited for your work, as per the attribution terms of the Creative Commons reuse license.

**Q5: Am I required to use the open textbooks for classes I teach?**

A: Yes, we are looking for instructors who are willing to adopt the textbook on which they work.

**Q6: What if I don't get my adaptation or creation done in time?**

A: Because we have made commitments to the public with respect to the delivery of the textbooks, we will only be funding projects that are completed on time. That said, there are always extenuating circumstances and we are willing to provide some flexibility in those cases.

**Q7: If my proposal is accepted and I complete the work, how will I know if people are using my textbook?**

A: BCcampus is tracking adoption of the textbooks and we would be able to provide any information we can gather back to the instructor who worked on the adaptation or creation.