



ALAMO
COLLEGES
DISTRICT

AlamoBOOKS+

ABOUT

AlamoBOOKS+ provides Alamo Colleges District students with free to low-cost rental textbooks and instructional materials for all courses by the first day of class. In collaboration with Barnes & Noble College, this program eliminates the financial burden of purchasing textbooks, ensuring students have the instructional materials needed to succeed on day one.

TOTAL SAVINGS

Estimated Student Savings



WHY

48% of students surveyed reported that the high cost of required class materials prevented them from purchasing these essential resources. Additionally, 60% of those students indicated that this lack of access to necessary materials negatively impacted their academic performance, hindering their ability to succeed in their courses.

Addressing Inequities:

Many students, especially from lower-income backgrounds, face educational inequities due to a lack of quality materials, creating barriers to success and perpetuating inequality. AlamoBOOKS+ ensures all students have access to quality materials, fostering an inclusive and equitable learning environment.

Impact of Delayed Access to Materials:

Without books on day one, students struggle with coursework, harming their performance, preparedness, and success. This can lead to lower grades, increased stress, and a higher chance of falling behind, affecting retention and completion rates.

INNOVATIONS

Expansion

The Dual Investment Model allocates \$30 of student tuition per 3 semester credit hours per courses toward instructional materials, with the remaining balance covered by the Alamo Colleges District. Additionally, the program emphasizes the use of Open Educational Resources (OER), with 664 sections designated as OER courses in Fall 2022, supported by a \$1.96 million three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to reduce costs further.

Enhancements

AlamoBOOKS+ provides instructional materials to students by the first day of class, ensuring they are prepared from the start. The program undergoes regular evaluation through performance metrics, feedback, and outcome analysis to continuously improve. Additionally, collaboration with academic departments and student support services ensures all students benefit from the program.

INITIATIVE IMPACT

Academic Impact (*Objective III)

- **Retention & Completion:** Ensuring students have access to required materials from day one improves academic performance. By alleviating financial burdens, AlamoBOOKS+ significantly boosts retention and completion rates.

Economic Impact

- **Cost Savings:** The initiative has saved students **\$51.6 million** in instructional materials for an entire academic year. Additionally, a \$1.96 million grant for the Alamo Colleges OER Consortium Project will serve over 10,000 students, further supporting the program's economic sustainability.

Student Success (*Objective I)

- **Positive Student Outcomes:** AlamoBOOKS+ promotes equity by providing all students, especially those from low-income families, with the necessary resources. Student testimonials highlight reduced financial stress, better class preparedness, and an enhanced college experience.

*ACD STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

I: Student Success

II: Principle-Centered Leadership

III: Performance Excellence

