**Library-Paid Professional Development Opportunity:**

**Open Educational Resources (OER), Winter 2025 Intensive**

Apply today to develop an openly licensed syllabus for a zero-textbook-cost (ZTC) course through a funded, week-long intensive introduction to Open Educational Resources. Participants receive $2,000 compensation. Applications due December 19.

Apply today

Nearly forty percent of CUNY students come from households with annual incomes of less than $20,000. For many of our students, the cost of textbooks can be a steep barrier to academic success. Students often choose not to register for courses that require expensive textbooks, or fail courses simply because they cannot afford the materials. These patterns can lead to increased enrollment time and reduced rates of degree completion.

You can help! Queens College faculty have saved our students over $2 million in textbook fees since 2018 by using Open Educational Resources, or OER. Learn more about OER.

This winter intersession, the Queens College Library is pleased to offer an accelerated OER Fellowship Program. Through this program, held over four 90-minute remote seminar sessions January 14-17, OER Fellows learn the fundamental principles of OER and open pedagogy, develop technical skills to create and curate accessible course content, organize cohesive and coherent materials tied to overarching learning objectives, and apply rigorous assessment standards to identify existing resources for classroom use.

**Faculty Fellows receive $2,000 in compensation.**

Faculty Fellows commit to:

- Participate in four 90-minute remote workshops January 14-17
- Provide the pre-conversion syllabus to OER Coordinator Leila Walker as part of the application process
- Teach at least one section of the OER or ZTC course in Spring 2025 or Fall 2025
- Label the converted course's syllabus as a Zero Textbook Course, ZTC course, or OER course as appropriate
- Mark the course as ZTC in CUNYFirst
- Ensure that all original materials, including the syllabus, are openly licensed with creative commons licenses
- Upload all original materials to Academic Works if a static document (.docx, .pdf, .pptx, etc) or to opened.cuny.edu if a website by June 15, 2025

- Ensure that all materials are accessible to all students according to [CUNY accessibility standards](#)

Through the Fellowship program, faculty learn to:

- Define and distinguish between open educational resources and zero textbook cost materials
- Find and evaluate existing open educational resources
- Assemble organized and easily modified syllabi
- Navigate intellectual property, fair use, copyright, and Creative Commons licenses
- Create accessible resources
- Explore the principles and practice of open pedagogy
- Enact social justice by reducing economic barriers to student success

Faculty Fellows make the resources they create openly available for other faculty to adopt, and we are happy to be able to offer modest funding to each faculty member the first time they teach a ZTC section of a course using a Fellow's materials.

While Fellows responsible for developing course content and selecting OER to adopt and/or adapt, the library faculty can assist with finding OER, answering copyright and licensing questions, and other forms of support, both during and after the training sessions. Please direct any questions to Leila Walker at [lwalker@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:lwalker@qc.cuny.edu).

[Apply today](#)