

## 2023 Illinois Course Materials Survey: Student Perspective

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Questions “If the cost is the same, which format do you prefer for your course materials?” and “How helpful to your learning are the following course material features?” are from the [Virginia Course Materials Survey Instrument](#) © 2021 by [VIVA](#) used under [CC BY NC SA 4.0](#).

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You are being asked to voluntarily participate in a research study. The 2023 Illinois Course Materials Survey: Student Perspective provides a voice for you, the student, to share information about the cost of your textbooks and instructional materials, the impact that textbook costs are having on your education, your preferences for course material formats and qualities, and your experience with affordable course materials.

This research study is an effort of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) and its Open Educational Resources Committee. CARLI is a unit of the University of Illinois System.

If you agree to participate and are 18 years of age or older attending a not-for-profit institution of higher education in Illinois, you will be asked to complete a brief online survey. The survey will take 10 minutes or less to complete. You will not be asked to identify yourself at any time. Only four questions require responses including: provide your consent to participate, select an academic term, identify if you were 18 years of age or older when the term began, and indicate your institution name. All other survey questions are optional. Your responses will be anonymous and aggregated together for analysis. You are free to withdraw at any time. All data will be stored in a secure electronic system.

CARLI staff collecting data in the research study will maintain confidentiality to the extent of federal and state laws and university policies. Personal identifiers will not be published or presented. Anonymous aggregated results may be shared with the institution that you attend. The results of this study may be published or presented using this anonymous data. Your anonymous responses could be used for future research without additional informed consent.

You will not be paid to take part in this study. However, your input will contribute to the body of knowledge on student textbook and instructional material costs and their impacts on Illinois college students.

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact Nicole Swanson via email at [long20@uillinois.edu](mailto:long20@uillinois.edu) or CARLI Support at [support@CARLI.illinois.edu](mailto:support@CARLI.illinois.edu). If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a participant please contact the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Office for the Protection of Research Subjects at 217-333-2670 or via email at [irb@uillinois.edu](mailto:irb@uillinois.edu).

### Voluntarily Consent and Eligibility

1. Do you agree to participate in this survey?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

2. Please select an academic term.  
Your responses in this survey should reflect the term you select here.

- ☐ Spring 2023  
☐ Summer 2023  
☐ Fall 2023

3. Were you 18 years of age or older when the academic term selected in question 2 began?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

4. Select your institution's name. (Institutions included in this study are not-for-profit institutions of higher education in Illinois.)

- ☐ Adler University
- ☐ American Academy of Art
- ☐ American Islamic College
- ☐ Augustana College
- ☐ Aurora University
- ☐ Benedictine University
- ☐ Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary
- ☐ Black Hawk College
- ☐ Blackburn College
- ☐ Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing
- ☐ Bradley University
- ☐ Carl Sandburg College
- ☐ Catholic Theological Union
- ☐ Chicago Baptist Institute
- ☐ Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis
- ☐ Chicago State University
- ☐ Chicago Theological Seminary
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Harold Washington College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Harry S Truman College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Kennedy-King College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Malcolm X College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Olive-Harvey College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Richard J. Daley College
- ☐ City Colleges of Chicago - Wilbur Wright College
- ☐ Christian Life College
- ☐ College of DuPage
- ☐ College of Lake County
- ☐ Columbia College Chicago
- ☐ Concordia University Chicago
- ☐ Danville Area Community College
- ☐ DePaul University
- ☐ Dominican University
- ☐ Dural Qasim College
- ☐ Eastern Illinois University
- ☐ East-West University
- ☐ Elgin Community College
- ☐ Elmhurst University
- ☐ Erikson Institute
- ☐ Eureka College
- ☐ Garrett - Evangelical Theological Seminary
- ☐ Generations College
- ☐ Governors State University
- ☐ Graham Hospital School of Nursing
- ☐ Greenville University
- ☐ Harper College
- ☐ Heartland Community College
- ☐ Hebrew Theological College
- ☐ Highland Community College
- ☐ Illinois Central College
- ☐ Illinois College
- ☐ Illinois College of Optometry
- ☐ Illinois Eastern Community College - Frontier Community College
- ☐ Illinois Eastern Community College - Lincoln Trail College
- ☐ Illinois Eastern Community College - Olney Central College
- ☐ Illinois Eastern Community College - Wabash Valley College
- ☐ Illinois Institute of Technology
- ☐ Illinois State University
- ☐ Illinois Valley Community College
- ☐ Illinois Wesleyan University
- ☐ Institute for Clinical Social Work
- ☐ Instituto College
- ☐ John A. Logan College
- ☐ John Wood Community College
- ☐ Joliet Junior College

- ☐ Judson University
- ☐ Kankakee Community College
- ☐ Kaskaskia College
- ☐ Kishwaukee College
- ☐ Knox College
- ☐ Lake Forest College
- ☐ Lake Forest Graduate School of Management
- ☐ Lake Land College
- ☐ Lakeview College of Nursing
- ☐ Lewis and Clark Community College
- ☐ Lewis University
- ☐ Lincoln Christian University
- ☐ Lincoln Land Community College
- ☐ Loyola University of Chicago
- ☐ Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- ☐ McCormick Theological Seminary
- ☐ McHenry County College
- ☐ McKendree University
- ☐ Meadville - Lombard Theological School
- ☐ Methodist College
- ☐ Midwestern University
- ☐ Millikin University
- ☐ Monmouth College
- ☐ Moody Bible Institute
- ☐ Moraine Valley Community College
- ☐ Morrison Institute of Technology
- ☐ Morton College
- ☐ National College of Naprapathic Medicine
- ☐ National Louis University
- ☐ National University of Health Sciences
- ☐ North Central College
- ☐ North Park University
- ☐ Northeastern Illinois University
- ☐ Northern Illinois University
- ☐ Northern Seminary
- ☐ NorthShore University HealthSystem School of Nurse Anesthesia
- ☐ Northwestern University
- ☐ Oak Point University
- ☐ Oakton College
- ☐ Olivet Nazarene University
- ☐ Parkland College
- ☐ Prairie State College
- ☐ Principia College
- ☐ Quincy University
- ☐ Rend Lake College
- ☐ Richland Community College
- ☐ Rock Valley College
- ☐ Rockford University
- ☐ Roosevelt University
- ☐ Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science
- ☐ Rush University
- ☐ Saint Anthony College of Nursing
- ☐ Saint Augustine College
- ☐ Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing
- ☐ Saint John's College of Nursing
- ☐ Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology
- ☐ Saint Xavier University
- ☐ Sauk Valley Community College
- ☐ School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- ☐ Shawnee Community College
- ☐ South Suburban College
- ☐ Southeastern Illinois College
- ☐ Southern Illinois University Carbondale
- ☐ Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- ☐ Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
- ☐ Southwestern Illinois College
- ☐ Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership
- ☐ Spoon River College
- ☐ Telshe Yeshiva

- ☐ Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago
  - ☐ Trinity Christian College
  - ☐ Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences
  - ☐ Trinity International University
  - ☐ Triton College
  - ☐ University of Chicago
  - ☐ University of Illinois Chicago
  - ☐ University of Illinois Springfield
  - ☐ University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
  - ☐ University of Saint Francis
  - ☐ University of Saint Mary of the Lake
  - ☐ Urbana Theological Seminary
  - ☐ VanderCook College of Music
  - ☐ Walther Theological Seminary
  - ☐ Waubensee Community College
  - ☐ Western Illinois University
  - ☐ Wheaton College
  - ☐ Institution not listed (add below)
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If the response to Question 4 = "Institution not listed," the following question appears:

Please share your institution's name that was not listed in question 4.

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5. Select your institution's type.

- ☐ Public University
- ☐ Private College or University
- ☐ Community College
- ☐ Other

### Student Perspective of Course Materials

6. During the academic term, how many courses did you take?

- ☐ 0  
☐ 1  
☐ 2  
☐ 3  
☐ 4  
☐ 5  
☐ 6  
☐ 7

7. During the academic term, how much did you spend on all textbooks and other required course materials (access codes, course packets, etc.)?

- ☐ 0    ☐ \$1-50    ☐ \$51-100  
☐ \$101-200    ☐ \$201-300  
☐ \$301-400    ☐ \$401-500  
☐ \$501-600    ☐ \$601-700  
☐ \$701-800    ☐ \$801-900  
☐ \$901-1000    ☐ \$1001-1100  
☐ \$1101-1200    ☐ \$1201-1300  
☐ \$1301-1400    ☐ \$1401-1500  
☐ \$1501-1600    ☐ \$1601-1700  
☐ \$1701-1800    ☐ \$1801-1900  
☐ \$1901-2000    ☐ \$2001-2100  
☐ \$2101-2200    ☐ \$2201-2300  
☐ \$2301-2400    ☐ \$2401-2500  
☐ \$2501 or more

8. Did you receive financial aid?

- ☐ Yes    ☐ No    ☐ Uncertain

If the response to Question 8 = "Yes," the following question appears:

Did the cost of your course materials exceed your financial aid award?

- ☐ Yes    ☐ No    ☐ Uncertain

9. Select what you would consider to be low cost for the course materials used for just one course.

- ☐ Zero cost    ☐ less than \$20  
☐ less than \$40    ☐ less than \$60  
☐ less than \$80    ☐ less than \$100  
☐ less than \$150    ☐ less than \$200

10. In your academic career, has the cost of required course materials caused you to: (select all that apply)

- ☐ Take fewer courses  
☐ Not register for a specific course  
☐ Drop a course  
☐ Withdraw from a course  
☐ Not purchase the required course materials  
☐ Earn a poor grade because you could not afford to buy the course materials  
☐ Fail a course because you could not afford to buy the course materials

11. How have the costs of textbooks and other course materials impacted you?

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12. Have you had an instructor use materials that were completely free to you? (You did not pay for them and they were not included in your tuition or student fees bill via a campus rental program, flat-fee model, or inclusive access model.)

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Uncertain

If the response to Question 12 = "Yes," the following question appears:

How was your experience with those free materials?

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13. If the cost is the same, which format do you prefer for your course materials?

- ☐ Print/Physical
- ☐ Digital
- ☐ It depends
- ☐ No preference

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14. Would you prefer to enroll in a course that used digital course materials with no cost to you or a course that used traditionally published course materials with a cost?

- ☐ I would prefer digital course materials with no cost.
- ☐ I would prefer traditional published materials with a cost.
- ☐ No preference.

**I 5. How helpful to your learning are the following course material features?**

	Very Helpful	Helpful	Not Helpful	Not Applicable
Ability to access them from anywhere	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Effective display via a cell phone or other small device	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to print content or access a print copy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lifetime access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interactive technology and exercises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compatible with assistive technologies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



## Degrees and Areas of Study

16. What degree(s) are you currently seeking?

- ☐ Associate
- ☐ Bachelor's
- ☐ Master's
- ☐ Doctorate
- ☐ Certificate or Diploma
- ☐ Non-degree seeking / Student at large

17. What is your program/primary area(s) of study?  
Select all that apply.

- ☐ Business (Accounting; Business; Economics; Management; Marketing; Office Technology)
- ☐ Computer Science (Computer Aided Graphics; Computer Information Science and Information Technology; Cybersecurity; Operations and Information Management; Gaming)
- ☐ Career & Technical (Applied Technology; Automotive Service Technology; Construction Management; Cosmetology; Culinary; Fire Science and Safety; Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR); Hospitality; Manufacturing Technology; Paramedics; Transportation Logistics and Distribution; Welding Technology)
- ☐ Education (Early Childhood Education; Child Development; Education/Teacher Preparation; Educational Leadership; English as a Second Language (ESL); Physical Education; Special Education)
- ☐ Engineering (Biomedical Engineering; Chemical Engineering; Civil Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Industrial Engineering)
- ☐ Fine & Applied Arts and Architecture (Animation/Motion Graphics; Architecture Art Education; Art History; Design; Fine Arts, Applied; Fashion Studies; Film; Interior Design; Theater; Music, Applied; Music Education; Music History and Theory; Photography)
- ☐ Health Sciences/Medical (Audiology; Clinical Laboratory; Dental; Medical Administration; Kinesiology; Nursing; Nutrition; Physician; Physician Office Coding & Billing; Public Health; Radiology; Speech Pathology; Surgical; Veterinary)
- ☐ Law including Paralegal Studies
- ☐ Liberal Arts & Communication (Creative Writing; Languages such as English, ASL, Spanish, etc.; Literature; Journalism & Communications; Philosophy; Social Media; Television Broadcasting)
- ☐ Mathematics and Statistics
- ☐ Social & Behavioral Sciences (Anthropology; Archeology; History; Political Science; Psychology; Religious Studies/Theology; Sociology; Social Work)
- ☐ Life Sciences and Physical Sciences (Agriculture; Astronomy; Biology; Chemistry; Environmental Science; Geology; Physics)
- ☐ Undecided
- ☐ Provide your own specific response

If the response to Question 17 = "Provide your own specific response," the following question appears:

Provide your own response.

## Funding Education

18. Which of the following sources are you using to fund your education? Select all that apply.

- ☐ I received a grant, scholarship, or other assistance.
- ☐ I work to help cover costs of attending school.
- ☐ I took out student loans to cover the cost of attending school.
- ☐ I took out personal loans to cover the cost of attending school.
- ☐ I fund my education with personal or family contributions.
- ☐ I don't know.
- ☐ Other.

If the response to Question 18 = "I received a grant, scholarship, or other assistance," the following question appears:

Please select all that apply.

- ☐ Illinois State Grants (Illinois Monetary Award Program [MAP] or Silas Purnell Illinois Incentive for Access Program [IIAP], Other Illinois State Grant(s))
- ☐ Federal Grants (Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Other Federal Grant(s))
- ☐ Veteran Grants (Illinois National Guard Grant, Illinois Veteran Grant, GI Bill, Other Veteran Assistance)
- ☐ Scholarship(s)
- ☐ Tuition Waiver(s)
- ☐ Employer-funded Assistance

If the response to Question 18 = "I work to help cover costs of attending school." the following question appears:

How many hours per week do you work on average?

- ☐ 1-10
- ☐ 11-20
- ☐ 21-30
- ☐ 31-40
- ☐ More than 40 hours

If the response to Question 18 = "Other," the following question appears:

Please describe what other source(s) help fund your education.

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**Demographics**

19. With which race/ethnicity do you identify? Select all that apply.

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ American Arab, Middle Eastern, and North African
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ Desi American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latine
- ☐ Multi-race
- ☐ White
- ☐ Another race or ethnicity not listed here
- ☐ Prefer to not answer

If the response to Question 19 = "Another race or ethnicity not listed here" the following question appears:

Please add race or ethnicity not listed.

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20. To which gender identity do you most identify? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Agender
- ☐ Genderqueer or genderfluid
- ☐ Māhū
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Muxe
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Questioning or unsure
- ☐ Two-spirit
- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Additional gender identity not listed
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

If the response to Question 20 = "Additional gender identity not listed" the following question appears:

Gender identity:

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21. Do you identify as any of the following? Select all that apply.

- ☐ International Student
- ☐ DACA
- ☐ Part-time student
- ☐ Full-time student
- ☐ First Generation student, defined as having no parent or guardian who completed at least an Associate's degree or higher?
- ☐ Veteran
- ☐ Prefer not to answer