



## High Quality Materials FAQ and Update February 2020

### What are the requirements related to instructional materials?

Tennessee state law requires districts to adopt instructional materials from the state-approved list, which was approved by the State Board of Education in November 2019.

### Where can I find state-approved ELA materials that meet the definition of high quality?

The summary list of state-adopted materials is available [here](#).

Resources to help districts in the adoption process can be found on the TDOE Textbook Page under the *For Districts* [tab](#).

### When do I need to report my adoption to TDOE?

District textbook coordinators received compliance forms in February. Forms are also available [here](#), and all forms are due on May 15, 2020 through a digital survey available on the link.

### What is the cost of materials?

Districts are responsible for the cost of purchasing instructional materials. To provide greater financial support for our local districts, the Governor's proposed budget provides \$10 million in reimbursement grants to help pay for a portion of materials that districts purchase. Pending budget allocation, all districts who purchase from the state-adopted list or have an approved waiver may apply for and be awarded a **non-competitive grant and receive a reimbursement for a portion of the materials costs (expected to be \$15 - \$18 per student)**.

This reimbursement will cover a portion of the expenses (\$15- \$18 per student) for high-quality K-2 knowledge-building and 3–8 ELA materials (state list or waiver). In addition, early adopters (those who have been using current state-approved materials for two or more years) are eligible to apply for and will receive reimbursable grants that would cover recurring or additional materials and implementation costs.

### Will there be supports for implementation of high-quality materials? What is the cost?

All districts who purchase from this list or have an approved waiver will be eligible to receive funding from the state to cover costs related to implementation support. The Governor's proposed budget provides an additional \$10 million to support the first year of implementation of high-quality K-8 ELA materials.

The state will award non-competitive grants to districts, who may select from approved vendors to cover professional development, coaching, or needs assessments. This will not be a reimbursement, but will provide funding directly to districts who apply. Expected minimum funding will also be \$15 per student, contingent upon the number of districts who choose to apply. We expect to have an approved vendor list by July (pending state procurement timelines) and will issue grant applications by early summer.

### What is the timeline?

First, TDOE will not receive any allocated funds until FY21 (beginning July 1, 2020). Historically, the state has been able to process reimbursements to districts within 45 business days.

Pending a budget allocation, districts will submit reimbursement grant applications by May 22, 2020 (grants will open by May 1, 2020). The department will award funds based on the number of grant submissions received after the new fiscal year begins, as outlined above.

*\*These opportunities will be made available to districts to support purchasing and implementing high-quality instructional materials, pending the 2020 legislative session and approval of the Governor's proposed budget.*