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## **Board of Regents Invests in Affordable Learning Initiatives through LOUIS**



*A Program of the Board of Regents*

**Baton Rouge** - This year the Commissioner of Higher Education, Dr. Kim Hunter Reed, approved projects totaling \$340,000 to support initiatives that contribute to reducing the costs of textbooks for students of higher education.

Each year the Louisiana Board of Regents receives a portion of the license fees collected by the Louisiana State Racing Commission to support statewide public and private institutions of higher education (RS 4:218).

LOUIS, through the [\*\*Affordable Learning LOUISiana program\*\*](#), has demonstrated that investments in both Open Educational Resources (OER) and eTextbooks are effective strategies to meet this goal. To date, the program has funded projects with an estimated student savings impact of \$4.8 million. With this new investment, LOUIS will continue to provide resources to support student savings.

OER course development will be further enhanced with the delivery of the state's [\*\*OER Commons\*\*](#) repository. With this technology, over 260 transferable courses will be aligned to existing OER textbooks and resources to streamline the course redesign process. Additionally, nearly 50,000 new eBooks are available at every

college and university library in Louisiana. These eBooks, acquired from [JSTOR](#), [Project Muse](#), and [Oxford University Press](#), provide new opportunities for faculty to select materials for their courses that are available at no cost to students.

For a list of LOUIS Libraries participating in the Affordable Learning eBook Initiative, click [here](#). For further information about programming to support textbook affordability at your campus or in your classroom, please contact Teri Gallaway, Associate Commissioner for LOUIS.

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## ***About LOUIS***

LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network, a program of the Board of Regents, is a consortium of 47 public and private college and university libraries in the state of Louisiana. Founded in 1992, LOUIS purchases and manages technology and resources to support the research, teaching, and learning needs of Louisiana's faculty and students in higher education. Learn more at [www.louislibraries.org](http://www.louislibraries.org).

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