

# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2023 Legislative Session

Bill Version: SB 13  
Fiscal Note Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Identifier: SB13-UA-OIT-3-9-2023  
Title: UNIVERSITY: TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS COST  
Sponsor: MYERS  
Requester: (S) Education Committee

Department: University of Alaska  
Appropriation: University of Alaska  
Allocation: Office of Information Technology  
OMB Component Number: 734

## Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

(Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2024 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2024 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

## Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

## Change in Revenues

None							
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2023) cost:** 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2024) cost:** 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)

**Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account?** N  
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

## ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Y  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/26

## Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial version

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Agency: University of Alaska

Phone: (907)450-8426  
Date: 03/09/2023 01:00 PM  
Date: 03/09/23

## FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA  
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. SB13

### Analysis

Senate Bill 13 is titled "An Act relating to costs of and charges for textbooks and other course materials required for the University of Alaska courses; and providing for an effective date (July 1, 2026)." The bill looks to solidify efforts for textbook transparency that are already in progress at various universities across the UA system and may require a modification to UA Board of Regents policy and/or regulations (P10.08.020 Selection of Textbooks and Educational Materials).

This legislation would add a new section, AS 14.40.121 Course materials, where the University of Alaska online course schedule must provide: a description of each course that clearly identifies costs, including zero or low-cost resources, associated with required course materials; and for searches identifying courses in which all required course materials are zero-cost or low-cost. Low-cost resources are defined at a pre-tax sales price that is not more than four times the hourly minimum wage established in AS 23.10.065(a), in 2022 low-cost would be no more than \$43.40.

The estimated cost to design, develop, test, and implement the capabilities described in the legislation includes building new integrations with multiple third-party software vendors. There will be upfront capital costs which we believe can be partially funded through the \$20 million Student Information System Modernization project. The SIS project is expected to be completed in the next three years.

There will be a productivity cost that the legislature should be aware of: Requiring professors to focus on administrative tasks takes away from the core educational mission. New professors are particularly vulnerable to compliance. "Everything is new."