

Dear Faculty,

Beginning in Summer 2020, Student Services Inc. and Millersville University will begin to transition textbook services to a new textbook partner, Akademos. This will move all our textbook sales to an online model. Student Services, Inc. will hold the contract with Akademos and our staff will act as a liaison between our Faculty, Students, and Akademos. The decision to move in this direction was made in response to the increasing cost of textbooks and to compete with the growing trend of students purchasing their books from online suppliers. The goal of the new online textbook store is to provide affordable textbook options for our students at Millersville University.

After a thorough review of online textbook options, Akademos was selected as our exclusive vendor for textbook services. Akademos has successfully provided students at over 120 institutions with low cost textbook options at significant savings.

Akademos will provide a virtual bookstore, powered by TextbookX, that will allow students to quickly and easily purchase textbooks. When they visit the school-branded site, students will be able to log in with their Millersville student account to see a personalized course page with all their registered courses and assigned course materials. Students will be able to select from new, used, eBook, and rental options, as well as have the option to buy their books from third-party marketplace merchants and students from around the country.

While this transition was planned for a Summer II launch, the COVID-19 pandemic has slowed the transition. It is our intention to be ready to go for the Summer III semester. We, of course, will keep the Faculty informed of our progress.

In the meantime,

Please submit ALL textbook requirements for the Summer and Fall terms to the existing faculty adoption site, <http://mville.store/SiteText?id=72468>, by June 30th so they can be transferred when the new site is ready.

Key to the success of the launch and all subsequent academic terms will be to have book assignments submitted in a timely manner to ensure the availability of textbooks for students. As a reminder, the textbook website and textbook listings allow the University to be in compliance with the textbook language in the HEOA.

Student Services Inc. will continue to manage the University Store in the SMC. The University Store will continue to provide University branded clothing and gifts as well as offering course supplies, snacks, and dorm supplies to our customers.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Julie Herr, Student Services Textbook Manager, at jherr@ssi.millersville.edu, or contact Junior Moise, Akademos Account Manager, at jmoise@akademos.com.