

TIMC Proposal: Creating a “low cost” instructional materials schedule designation

In keeping with SB 1359 designation and the recommendation of ASCCC, TIMC proposes adding a searchable designation and icon for “low-cost instructional materials” to the Mt SAC schedule.

“Course sections that are advertised as lower cost, even if they are not cost free, may be more attractive to students, especially given that many students do not buy their texts or other materials because they cannot afford to do so. Having sections that are identified as low-cost might not only increase enrollment but might also help to promote greater equity, not just for traditionally underserved students but also for students who have limited resources to spend on books, such as those on the GI Bill or with Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) vouchers. Students on financial aid might also be drawn to sections with lower costs, especially in fields where the texts are traditionally prohibitively expensive.” [Link to full ASCCC statement on SB1359](#)

The committee surveyed local CSU and CCC use of “low cost” designations and found that these ranged between \$40 and \$50. Associated Students voted May 25th, 2021 to support a \$40 or less “low cost” designation at Mt Sac. [Link to minutes](#)

1- We suggest an icon with an arrow pointing down to represent the lowered cost to students. The banner legend at the top of the schedule search should define the icon as: “\$40 or less Instructional Materials”

For example:



2- We additionally recommend creating a separate searchable “box” in the advanced search options for the Mt SAC class schedule that highlights “instructional materials” rather than “special class type.” This box should include:

- All
- Zero Cost Instructional Materials
- Low-Cost Instructional Materials (\$40 or less)

For example:

Cost of Textbook and/or Instructional Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Zero Cost	<input type="checkbox"/> Low Cost (\$40↓)
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