

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

GUIDELINES FOR THE ELECTRONIC VERSIONS OF TEXTBOOKS

The Georgia Legislature in House Bill 228 requires that textbook publishers submitting textbooks for the recommended list in Georgia produce an electronic version of that textbook. The following is a list of guidelines for the production of electronic materials.

1. The electronic version must be a usable edition of the textbook. Teachers must be able to use the electronic version for instruction and to assign homework.
2. Publishers may establish any reasonable usage restrictions except that the electronic version may not be limited to use only by vision-impaired students.
3. The electronic version does not have to be a page-by-page reproduction of the text. The electronic version may be text only. If a publisher is unable to gain copyright clearance on some of the passages, those passages may be omitted as long as the electronic edition remains a usable text for instruction.
4. The electronic version is required for student editions only. Otherwise, design and format is left up to the publisher. It does not have to be an exact copy, but it must be a usable electronic version.
5. The electronic version may be a read-only document. It may be a CD-ROM or an on-line version. The format is a decision of the publisher.
6. Publishers must design their own controls over electronic versions. The Georgia Department of Education does not market nor otherwise monitor usage of these electronic versions.
7. Pricing for the electronic version is established according to the publisher's contract, using the same process as the regular textbooks. However, the price for the electronic version can be different from that of the print version.
8. The electronic version of any subject area text shall be on the same adoption schedule as its print counterpart.
9. The content of an electronic version at a minimum should be updated when the textbook is revised. At the publisher's option, it may be updated more frequently as long as it complies with the Textbook Agreement.

Passed by the Georgia Board of Education, September 12, 2002.