

## Textbook/Instructional Materials Waiver Requests:

### Hawkins County: Edmentum/PLATO

#### Subject-Specific Feedback (from Department contractor)

Subject/Course	Subject-Matter Expert Feedback
Spanish 1	Some standards lack strong speaking and listening components when conducted fully virtually, though there are recorded activities that students can compare to exemplar responses for feedback. However, most standards were appropriately covered by the content.
Spanish 2	Some standards lack strong speaking and listening components when conducted fully virtually, though there are recorded activities that students can compare to exemplar responses for feedback. However, most standards were appropriately covered by the content.

#### Additional Criteria in Rule (from State Board staff)

Criteria	Staff Review
The explanation of the unique or unusual needs of the LEA necessitating the use of the requested Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials in the waiver application.	Hawkins County is attempting to establish a virtual school that will be an option for students in grades K-12 and primarily use state-approved, adopted textbooks. However, the district is also seeking an outside digital content vendor for elective courses that are unable to be provided by local teachers
The extent of the Textbook and/or Instructional Materials' alignment to Tennessee Academic Standards and, if necessary, the extent to which the LEA's plan would remediate any areas of misalignment.	The content of the courses is aligned to the Tennessee Academic Standards for world languages. However, some standards need stronger components of speaking and listening activities if conducted virtually. The LEA should consider how to strengthen the online curriculum to support students in these portions of the standards.
How the LEA will address deficiencies identified by the Textbook Commission, if applicable.	N/A: The proposed materials were not reviewed by the Textbook Commission.
Evidence of improved student outcomes in the LEA when utilizing Textbook and/or Instructional Materials waivers the LEA has been granted in the past, if applicable.	Hawkins County was granted waivers for its virtual school at the February 2022 State Board meeting; however, there has not been sufficient time since that meeting to implement the materials and track outcomes.
The availability of state-approved Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials for the requested course and/or subject.	There are state-approved textbooks available for the requested courses and subjects; however, those options are not fully online options.

**Houston County: Founders Education**

**Subject-Specific Feedback (from Department staff)**

<b>Subject/Course</b>	<b>Subject-Matter Expert Feedback</b>
Ancient History	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
Economics	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
World Geography	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
World History	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
Sociology	Based on the review, this course contains content that violates T.C.A. § 49-6-1019 related to the instruction of prohibited concepts and therefore cannot be recommended for approval.
Psychology	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
U.S. Government and Civics	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
U.S. History	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
English I	The online course and supplemental materials provided by the LEA together are appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
English II	The online course and supplemental materials provided by the LEA together are appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
English III	The online course and supplemental materials provided by the LEA together are appropriate to teach the standards for the course.
English IV	The online course and supplemental materials provided by the LEA together are appropriate to teach the standards for the course.

**Additional Criteria in Rule (from State Board staff)**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Staff Review</b>
The explanation of the unique or unusual needs of the LEA necessitating the use of the requested Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials in the waiver application.	Houston County's goal is to open a virtual school for students and families that choose that option and use a virtual curriculum, Founders Education, as the primary online curriculum. Their partnership with a vendor would also provide Tennessee-licensed educators to help fill local staffing shortages.
The extent of the Textbook and/or Instructional Materials' alignment to Tennessee Academic Standards and, if necessary, the extent to which the LEA's plan would remediate any areas of misalignment.	The content of some courses is aligned to Tennessee academic standards; however, one proposed course does not meet the requirements that are specific to social studies courses as established in statute. In addition, the English I-IV courses were listed as "pending" at the October 2021 board meeting; since then, Houston County submitted supplemental materials and met the deficiencies identified at the time.
How the LEA will address deficiencies identified by the Textbook Commission, if applicable.	N/A: The proposed materials were not reviewed by the Textbook Commission.
Evidence of improved student outcomes in the LEA when utilizing Textbook and/or Instructional Materials waivers the LEA has been granted in the past, if applicable.	Houston County was granted waivers for other subjects to teach at their proposed virtual school at the October 2021 State Board meeting; the virtual school would not begin operation until the 2022-23 school year.
The availability of state-approved Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials for the requested course and/or subject.	There are state-approved textbooks available for the requested courses and subjects; however, those options are not fully online options.

**Rutherford County: Graduation Alliance**

**Subject-Specific Feedback (from Department staff)**

<b>Subject/Course</b>	<b>Subject-Matter Expert Feedback</b>
Health Education	The content of this course is aligned to the Tennessee Health Education and Lifetime Wellness Standards. <i>Recommended State Course Code: G08H02 Lifetime Wellness</i>
U.S. History	The content of this course is aligned to the Tennessee Health Education and Lifetime Wellness Standards. The subject-matter expert indicated standards alignment could be increased if the courses provided more opportunities for students to experience the depth of content in the subject based on the standards.
U.S. Government	The content of this course is aligned to the Tennessee Health Education and Lifetime Wellness Standards. The subject-matter expert indicated standards alignment could be increased if the courses provided more opportunities for students to experience the depth of content in the subject based on the standards.
Economics	The content of this course is aligned to the Tennessee Health Education and Lifetime Wellness Standards. The subject-matter expert indicated standards alignment could be increased if the courses provided more opportunities for students to experience the depth of content in the subject based on the standards.
World History	The content of this course is aligned to the Tennessee Health Education and Lifetime Wellness Standards. The subject-matter expert indicated standards alignment could be increased if the courses provided more opportunities for students to experience the depth of content in the subject based on the standards.
Fitness for Life: Semesters 1 and 2	The content of this two-semester course is aligned to the Tennessee Academic Standards for Physical Education
Intermediate Fitness: Semesters 1 and 2	The content of this two-semester course is partially aligned to the Tennessee Academic Standards for Physical Education. In particular, the online course content lacks instructional and assessment materials; however, the LEA provided supplemental materials that demonstrated sufficient alignment with the skills-based standards.
Statistics: Semesters 1 and 2	Most of the standards adopted for Statistics contained in the current Tennessee Academic Standards for Mathematics seem to be appropriately and sufficiently addressed in the course material for Statistics semesters 1 & 2 presented by Graduation Alliance.

**Additional Criteria in Rule (from State Board staff)**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Staff Review</b>
The explanation of the unique or unusual needs of the LEA necessitating the use of the requested Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials in the waiver application.	Rutherford County explained that its goal is to run its adult high school virtually through a partnership with Graduation Alliance. The adult high school would allow students flexibility to meet other responsibilities, such as work or family, while completing their high school program.
The extent of the Textbook and/or Instructional Materials' alignment to Tennessee Academic Standards and, if necessary, the extent to which the LEA's plan would remediate any areas of misalignment.	The content of most of the proposed courses is aligned to Tennessee academic standards. However, the intermediate fitness course lacks coverage of skills-based standards, but the LEA's proposed supplemental materials and instructional plans ensure adequate alignment.
How the LEA will address deficiencies identified by the Textbook Commission, if applicable.	N/A: The proposed materials were not reviewed by the Textbook Commission.
Evidence of improved student outcomes in the LEA when utilizing Textbook and/or Instructional Materials waivers the LEA has been granted in the past, if applicable.	Rutherford County was recently granted waivers by the State Board for its Adult High School (October 2021 and Feb. 2022); however, there has not been sufficient time to evaluate the implementation of the waiver materials. The LEA did state that the vendor, Graduation Alliance, has positive outcomes in five other states, such as increased completion rates and more employment opportunities.

The availability of state-approved Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials for the requested course and/or subject.	There are state-approved textbooks available for the requested courses and subjects; however, those options are not fully online options.
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**Williamson County: eDynamic Learning**

**Subject-Specific Feedback (from Department staff)**

<b>Subject/Course</b>	<b>Subject-Matter Expert Feedback</b>
Coding 1	The course content appears appropriate to teach the standards for the course.

**Additional Criteria in Rule (from State Board staff)**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Staff Review</b>
The explanation of the unique or unusual needs of the LEA necessitating the use of the requested Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials in the waiver application.	Williamson County explained that its goal is to offer Coding 1 using interactive, up-to-date resources in both in-person and virtual settings.
The extent of the Textbook and/or Instructional Materials' alignment to Tennessee Academic Standards and, if necessary, the extent to which the LEA's plan would remediate any areas of misalignment.	The content of the proposed courses is aligned to Tennessee academic standards.
How the LEA will address deficiencies identified by the Textbook Commission, if applicable.	N/A: The proposed materials were not reviewed by the Textbook Commission.
Evidence of improved student outcomes in the LEA when utilizing Textbook and/or Instructional Materials waivers the LEA has been granted in the past, if applicable.	Williamson County does not have prior textbook/ instructional materials waivers issued by the State Board.
The availability of state-approved Textbooks and/or Instructional Materials for the requested course and/or subject.	There is not a state-approved textbook or instructional materials for this course.