



NEWS

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Mesa State starts pilot textbook rental program

Grand Junction – Beginning in the fall 2009 semester, Mesa State College will offer students a lower-priced alternative to purchasing textbooks. Selected textbooks will be available for students to rent rather than buy.

“This is part of our continued effort to provide student-focused services aimed at maintaining low costs and convenience,” said Mesa State Vice President for Student Services John Marshall.

The rental fee for a textbook will be 40 percent less than the purchase price of a new textbook and 25 percent less than the purchase price of a used textbook. The textbooks selected for inclusion in the pilot project had to meet certain criteria that included being a new edition that cost \$100 or more new and that the faculty committed to using for two years. It also had to be for a course with a larger enrollment such as a general education or introductory course with at least 100 students enrolled.

“Although many students will still prefer to purchase their textbooks up front and either keep them or sell them at the end of the semester, some students may prefer the lower up-front price of a rental,” said Tracy Brodrick, manager of the MSC Bookstore.

Brodrick studied textbook rental programs at other colleges and universities as she designed this pilot program. Assuming the program is a success with students, additional textbooks will be added to the rental program. For the fall semester, textbooks for a geology course, a psychology course, a mass communications course and a kinesiology course will be available for rent.

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