



**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SPECIFICATIONS  
FOR THE FLORIDA  
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS  
ADOPTION**



**Florida Department of Education  
Office of Instructional Materials  
325 W. Gaines Street – Suite 432  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
850-245-0425**

**<http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials>**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PART I. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PART II. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLISHERS AND STATE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEWERS/DISTRICT SCHOOL OFFICIALS.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PART III. STATE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEWERS AND DISTRICT REVIEWERS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PART IV. INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS/PUBLISHERS.....</b>	<b>5</b>

## **PART I. INTRODUCTION**

The following policies and procedures have been approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section (s.) 1006.34, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and State Board of Education Rule 6A-7.0710, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), for use by state instructional materials reviewers and district reviewers who evaluate instructional materials and publishers who submit instructional materials for adoption.

In Florida, specific courses within selected subject areas and grade levels are called for adoption on a rotating basis, usually for a period of five years. Florida adopts instructional materials for those specific courses. Subject areas for the current adoption year and the adoption schedule are posted on the Florida Department of Education Instructional Materials (FDOEIM) website (referenced in footer). The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) publishes specifications for the subjects to be adopted. These specifications outline the courses, as well as the standards that the materials are expected to meet. Specifications can be downloaded from the FDOEIM website.

Each section in this document contains information relative to the duties and responsibilities of each state instructional materials reviewer, district reviewer and publisher submitting material for the adoption.

### **SPECIFIC TO THE K-5 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) ADOPTION**

In 2017, s. 1001.215, F.S., dealing with the Just Read, Florida! Office, was amended to require that the Office through the Department:

(4) Develop and provide access to sequenced, content-rich curriculum programming, instructional practices, and resources that help elementary schools use state-adopted instructional materials to increase students' background knowledge and literacy skills, including student attainment of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards for social studies, science, and the arts.

(8) Work with the Florida Center for Reading Research to identify scientifically researched and evidence-based reading instructional and intervention programs that incorporate explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension and incorporate decodable or phonetic text instructional strategies. Reading intervention includes evidence-based strategies frequently used to remediate reading deficiencies and includes, but is not limited to, individual instruction, multisensory approaches, tutoring, mentoring, or the use of technology that targets specific reading skills and abilities. (See 2017 – 116, section 16, Laws of Florida)

To ensure instructional materials are grade appropriate, of good quality and content, and aligned to applicable Florida Standards, each material will be evaluated based on compliance to s. 1001.215(4), F.S. In order to be considered for state adoption, materials must meet evaluation criteria and recommended at each level.

#### **Evaluation Criteria:**

1. Content Evaluation – Coverage of topics.
2. Reading Evaluation – Quality of reading materials.

#### **State Review:**

3. State Adoption Review – This review will check alignment to Florida Standards and usability of instructional materials. Review is performed by state reviewers as outlined in s. 1006.29, F.S.

Information regarding how compliance to this statute is attained is covered in each section, as appropriate.

## **PART II. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLISHERS AND STATE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEWERS/DISTRICT SCHOOL OFFICIALS**

The relationship between the state instructional materials reviewers and the publishers shall be in compliance with s. 1006.30, F.S.

The relationship between district school board officials, including school officers, instructional personnel and administrative personnel pursuant to s. 1012.01, F.S., and the publishers shall be in compliance with s. 1006.32, F.S.

For purposes of s. 1006.32(3), F.S., a “pilot program” is defined as an arrangement in which a school or school district accepts instructional materials from a publisher who will bid those materials in the subsequent adoption either on loan, for free or at a reduced price, within eighteen months prior to the April 1 adoption date.

## **PART III. STATE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEWERS AND DISTRICT REVIEWERS**

### **STATE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS REVIEWERS**

The Commissioner of Education shall appoint three state instructional materials reviewers in the content areas submitted for adoption to review each of the instructional materials bid for adoption and evaluate the content for alignment with the applicable Florida Standards. For the materials which the first two state instructional materials reviewers agree to recommend or not recommend for adoption, an evaluation by the third reviewer will not be required. An evaluation by the third reviewer will only be required for situations in which the first two reviewers disagree as to whether materials should be recommended for adoption. Instructional materials shall be made available electronically to the state instructional materials reviewers, who shall complete an electronic evaluation of the items to assess whether the materials align to the Florida Standards.

### **DISTRICT REVIEWERS**

The Commissioner of Education shall request each school district superintendent to nominate one classroom teacher or district-level content supervisor to review two or three of the submissions recommended by the state instructional materials reviewers. District reviewers shall be provided electronic access to two or three recommended submissions and shall complete an electronic evaluation of the instructional usability of the materials.

### **REVIEWER TRAINING**

Pursuant to s. 1006.29(5), F.S., the FDOE developed a training program for the state instructional materials reviewers and district reviewers. Each adoption year, all state instructional materials reviewers

must complete the training prior to evaluating the instructional materials. Details will be posted on the FDOEIM website. Training includes content on the use of the online evaluation system and content directly related to the Florida Standards relevant to the current instructional materials adoption.

## EVALUATION OF MATERIALS

For submissions bid as a series, such as a K-5 series, the FDOEIM office may, if necessitated by the amount of content required for review, divide a submission by grade level, or another appropriate manner, for reviewers to evaluate. In such cases, the reviewers will evaluate all materials which they are assigned, and FDOEIM will establish criteria for determining whether the submission as a whole meets the requirements for recommendation.

Only electronic or digital sample copies of the major tool of instruction will be evaluated for adoption, except during adoptions in which ancillary materials are instrumental to the content area. For these adoptions, the FDOEIM office will instruct the publishers as to the number and types of ancillary materials allowable for review.

To complete the evaluation process, reviewers will receive electronic access to the following materials:

Instructional Materials Specifications – The specifications describe the courses for which materials are being sought, as well as cite the standards that the instructional materials are expected to meet. In addition, they contain the research base that outlines the components of effective instructional materials.

For the K-5 ELA adoption, publishers are required to include balanced coverage of the standards-based identified topics in social studies, science and the arts, as noted in the K-5 ELA Specifications and according to grade level, which will be measurable for state reviewers during the review process.

Prior to the materials being assigned to expert state reviewers, the FDOE Bureau of Standards & Instructional Support staff and the Just Read, Florida! staff will conduct an evaluation for compliance of topic coverage within the submitted ELA materials.

The following forms prepared by the publisher:

- Standards Alignment Form IM7 – Standards alignments assist the Florida Department of Education and the reviewers in determining the degree to which submitted materials meet the Florida Standards, intended outcomes and/or objectives of a course.
- Publisher's Questionnaire Form IM8 – The questionnaire describes and identifies the components of the program submitted in the publisher's instructional materials bid.
- Universal Design for Learning Form IM12 – The form provides information on presentation, navigation, study tool and assistive technology supports that allow the material to be accessible to all students.

Publishers may provide a 15-minute virtual presentation to the state instructional materials reviewers on the merits of the materials submitted for adoption. This virtual presentation is prerecorded and accessible to reviewers on the sample website.

After their evaluation is complete, the state instructional materials reviewers will make a recommendation of whether or not to adopt the instructional materials. Materials which have been recommended by the state instructional materials reviewers will then be made available for electronic review by the district reviewers. The district reviewers shall independently rate the recommended submissions on the instructional usability of the resources and provide an electronic evaluation to the FDOEIM office.

Once the submitted instructional materials are reviewed by the expert state reviewers, they will be rated based on the rubric provided to each reviewer using a five-point Likert scale. The rubric instructs each reviewer to provide a rating of each standard ranging from Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, and Very Poor/No Alignment. The rating scale also provides a numerical equivalent to each rating, i.e., Very Good = 5, Good = 4, Fair = 3, Poor = 2, and Very Poor/No Alignment = 1. The ratings for the subject-specific standards will be averaged per standard. At least 90% of the subject-specific standards are expected to rank at an average of 4-Good or 5-Very Good.

The reviewer-recommended bids that retain a ratings average of 90% or above of a Good to Very Good for their subject-specific standards will remain on the recommended list for state adoption that is presented to the Commissioner of Education for final review. Reviewer-recommended bids that do not retain a ratings average of 90% or above for subject-specific standards will be presented to the Commissioner of Education in their own report for consideration.

**Public Review** – The general public will be allowed electronic access to review instructional materials submitted for adoption. Access to the materials will be granted via the process outlined below.

- Materials which have been recommended for adoption by the state instructional materials reviewers will be made available electronically through the online evaluation system.
- Any member of the general public wishing to view the recommended materials may request registration as a guest user on the FDOEIM online evaluation system.
- The guest user will then be notified that access to the requested materials has been granted.
- The evaluation instrument, which allows the user to complete an online evaluation with comments, will be available for submission on reviewed materials.
- Access to the requested materials will be available via the online evaluation system for two weeks (14 calendar days).
- After the two-week period has ended, access to the materials will be blocked.

Any subsequent access will require an additional request to the Office of Instructional Materials at 850-245-0425 or via email at [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org).

The Commissioner of Education shall review the evaluations of the state instructional materials reviewers and district reviewers, consider the costs of the materials and public feedback, and then approve, reject or amend the list of materials.

#### **PART IV. INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS/PUBLISHERS**

The FDOE shall publish the specifications for the subjects to be adopted. These specifications refer to the criteria, standards and/or course descriptions for each course for which instructional materials are to be adopted. In addition, these specifications provide information about the kinds of materials that are desired, the grade levels for which the materials should be designed and the research findings about what makes instructional materials effective.

Bidders may examine the instructional materials specifications to determine whether they have products that cover the criteria, standards and/or course descriptions and can be used as a major tool for teaching the course as referenced in Part I of the Introduction. These specifications may be found on the FDOEIM website.

#### **SPECIFIC TO THE K-5 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) ADOPTION:**

In order to build background knowledge and literacy skills, pursuant to s. 1001.215(4), F.S., materials should implement a 50/50 split of informational and literary texts. Fifty percent of the instructional materials text should be informational and aligned to grade level NGSSS in social studies, science and the arts, as noted in the K-5 ELA Specifications. Acceptable text types for informational texts include primary sources, secondary sources, functional materials and literary nonfiction. The remaining fifty percent should be literary fiction. Topics for non-fiction or cross-curricular literature should include topics/benchmarks as identified in the Florida Standards Assessments ELA Reading and Writing Guidelines, by grade level. It is expected that every topic listed in the Specifications document will be covered, and a balanced coverage of the arts will be included in both informational and literary texts.

In addition, a comprehensive K-2, 3-5 or K-5 reading component of the ELA program series will contain systematic [sequential], explicit instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension, and incorporate decodable or phonetic text instructional strategies to include meaningful experiences with excellent literature and informational text to build comprehension and enjoyment of print.

Publishers will be expected to create correlation documents to include a listing of subject, with topic, and its corresponding text in the materials by grade level for social studies and science, and by series for art. Topic correlations should also include percentage of coverage for each topic. This document will be provided to reviewers for the adoption process.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Florida adopts the major tool of instruction, along with priced ancillary materials which are designed to work with the major tool. The major tool is comprised only of items necessary to meet the standards and

benchmarks in the course description of the course or subject for which it is designed and submitted. The major tool must also be made available as separate and unbundled items, each priced individually. Ancillary materials, while not necessary to meet the course requirements, are designed to enhance the major tool.

All Florida instructional materials adoptions are dependent upon statutory authority, adequate funding and the ability of the department to secure a sufficient number of qualified reviewers to perform the required evaluations.

For purposes of state adoption, the following definitions apply:

- “Instructional materials,” as provided in s. 1006.29(2), F.S., means items having intellectual content that by design serve as a major tool for assisting in the instruction of a subject or course. These items may be available in bound, unbound, kit or package form and may consist of hardbacked or softbacked textbooks, electronic content, consumables, learning laboratories, manipulatives, electronic media and computer courseware or software. A publisher or manufacturer providing instructional materials as a single bundle shall also make the instructional materials available as separate and unbundled items, each priced individually. A publisher may also offer sections of state-adopted instructional materials in digital or electronic versions at reduced rates to districts, schools and teachers.
- “Major tool” refers to:
  - Materials that provide instructional content and student learning activities for each of the Florida Standards that are in the course descriptions for reading, language arts, literature, math, science, social studies, physical education, health, world languages, visual arts and performing arts; and
  - Materials that provide instructional content and student learning activities for each of the intended outcomes and/or student performance standards of the Career and Technical Education Curriculum Frameworks.
- “Ancillaries” are those items that were designed to work with the major tool and may be priced or free with order.
- “Supplementary” materials are defined as supporting materials that do not qualify as the major tool and are not designed to accompany the specific major tool with which they were submitted, but could be used with any publisher’s materials. Florida does not have a process for the adoption of supplementary materials.

All materials that are considered during adoption of the major tool, regardless of price, must be provided upon award of the contract.

Items not eligible for bid include supplementary materials, professional development, equipment and supplies. Supplementary materials are defined as supporting materials that do not qualify as the major tool and are not designed to accompany the specific major tool with which they were submitted, but may be



used with any publisher's materials. Equipment and supplies refer to anything that does not have intellectual content. Examples of items from previous bids that will be removed from the bid unless offered free are: Word Wall Charts, Hanging Vinyl Charts with Pockets, Writing Folders, Cumulative Folders, Page Protectors, Skills Profile Folders and Website Resource Cards.

Submissions that are comprised of two or more independent, stand-alone programs are not acceptable for adoption consideration.

Per Florida Statutes, all adopted instructional materials for students in kindergarten through grade 12 must be provided in an electronic or digital format:

- “Electronic format” means text-based or image-based content in a form that is produced on, published by and readable on computers or other digital devices and is an electronic version of a printed book, whether or not any printed equivalent exists.
- “Digital format” means text-based or image-based content in a form that provides the student with various interactive functions; that can be searched, tagged, distributed and used for individualized and group learning; that includes multimedia content such as video clips, animations and virtual reality; and that has the ability to be accessed at anytime and anywhere.

The terms do not include electronic or computer hardware even if such hardware is bundled with software or other electronic media, nor does it include equipment or supplies.

#### PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING MATERIALS FOR ADOPTION:

The FDOEIM office will issue bid calls in alignment with the adoption cycle. If the call includes a series, such as an Elementary Series, Grades K-5, then all levels of the Elementary Series, Grades K-5 materials should be bid as one submission but should also be made available as separate items.

Questions regarding these requirements and all forms and documents required in this process should be addressed to the “Office of Instructional Materials” in the Florida Department of Education. Contact information is located on the title page of this document.

#### INTENT TO BID Form IM1

Publishers are requested to submit an Intent to Bid using the online Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process found on the FDOEIM website no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in May of the adoption year. All items specified on the Intent to Bid form should be provided. Submitting an Intent to Bid in no way obligates the publisher to participate in the adoption process. Publishers are encouraged to be as accurate as possible when submitting an Intent to Bid because this information is used to determine the appropriate number of reviewers for each subject area. One product cannot be submitted to multiple bids. Publishers can revise an Intent to Bid; however, an Intent to Bid cannot be deleted once it is saved. If a publisher requires an Intent to Bid to be deleted, all content must be removed, and the word “DELETE” must be added into all the columns before the Intent to Bid for deletion is saved. A request must then be submitted to [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org) and the FDOEIM staff will then

make the Intent to Bid(s) inactive. Additions and alterations to bids that need to be made after the Intent to Bid close date also need to be submitted to [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org).

### BID DEPOSIT Form IM2

Florida law requires bidders to place a bid deposit with the FDOE. The amount of the deposit is \$500 for each submission, with a maximum of \$2,500 for five or more submissions [s. 1006.33(3), F.S.]. Deposits must be submitted in the form of a cashier's check (drawn on a bank, not the company account) or money order. Checks must be made out to the "Florida Department of Education" and must reference the company name as listed in the publisher registration.

Bid deposits must be received in the Office of Instructional Materials in the Florida Department of Education no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in June of the adoption year. The bid deposit must be in a separate envelope marked "Adoption Bid Deposit" from the sealed bid. The mailing address is located on the title page of this document.

The FDOEIM office reserves the right to reject any bid that fails to comply with the bid deposit requirements or to meet the stated deadline.

### RETURN OF BID DEPOSIT

In order to have the bid deposit returned, publishers/vendors must have on file with the Department of Financial Services a Substitute W-9 Form (Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification Form, Internal Revenue Service). The Substitute W-9 Form must be completed online.

Please view the State of Florida Vendor Website at <https://flvendor.myfloridacfo.com> to receive the latest information and step-by-step instructions on how to register and complete a Substitute Form W-9 online. Any questions regarding the Substitute Form W-9 should be directed to the Department of Financial Services Vendor Management Section at 850-413-5519 or via email at [FLW9@myfloridacfo.com](mailto:FLW9@myfloridacfo.com).

The bid deposit will be returned to successful bidders when the bidder has executed the contract and submitted the required surety bond within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the contract. The bid deposit will be returned to unsuccessful bidders as soon as practicable following the completed adoption of state instructional materials. In the event a successful bidder fails to execute the contract and/or furnish a surety bond within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of the contract, the bid deposit will be forfeited to the State of Florida [s. 1006.33(3), F.S.].

### BID FORMS OR PROPOSALS Form IM3 and IM4

Sealed bids, including the Signature Sheet Form IM3 and Detailed Bid(s) Form IM4, must be received in the Office of Instructional Materials in the Florida Department of Education no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in June of the adoption year. Bids received after that time will be rejected and returned to the bidder. The bid deadline will not be extended. After the bid deadline, publishers will not be allowed to revise a bid except for the reduction of price and/or the addition of free items offered [s. 1006.38(6) and (7), F.S.].

The bid must be submitted on the State of Florida Instructional Materials Bid Form (Form IM4). The bid must be uploaded and printed using the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website. Bid(s) cannot be deleted once saved. A request to [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org) must be submitted if an item needs to be removed. All content and bid information must be removed from a bid that needs to be deleted; the word “DELETE” must be added into the first three columns and the bid saved. The FDOEIM staff will then remove the item(s). If any additional changes to bid details are required, a request must be submitted to [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org). No changes will be made to submitted bids until the end of the adoption process.

For a bid to be acceptable, all items of information specified on the Bid Form must be provided.

- The signature page, printed at the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website, must bear the original signature of an authorized company officer. The signature page must clearly list each bid submitted.
- The bid must state the lowest wholesale price at which the materials will be furnished at the contract start date. Variations in price based on volume purchase are not acceptable.
- A publisher or manufacturer providing instructional materials as a single bundle must also make the instructional materials available as separate and unbundled items, each priced individually. The aggregate cost of the unbundled items if purchased separately must not exceed the cost of the items if purchased as a single bundle.
- All adopted instructional materials for students in kindergarten through grade 12 must be provided in an electronic or digital format [s. 1006.29(3), F.S.].
- Materials bid for adoption must be in final form in time for sampling. If final form will not be ready in time to meet the sampling deadline, the publisher may not submit a bid for those materials.
- Materials bid for adoption must be available for the life of the contract period. Publishers may not specify that an item will only be available for specified years of the contract. For example: “State Specific version available first two years of the contract, national thereafter.” [s. 1006.38(12) and (13), F.S.]
- Publishers are required to provide any instructional materials free of charge in Florida to the same extent as that received by any other state or school district in the United States [s. 1006.38(7), F.S.]. These free items must be appropriately identified on the Bid Form.
- Free offers that give the teacher, school or district a specified dollar amount of items from the publisher’s complete catalog will not be accepted.
- The bid, which includes the Signature Sheet and Detailed Bid(s), must be sealed separately from all other items and must be in an envelope marked “SEALED BID” with the company name also clearly marked on the outside of the envelope.

All materials bid for adoption must include the capability to be searched by Florida Standards. Publishers are also required to incorporate tiered site-level licensing into their bid. Tiered site licenses must be scaled to take into account the diversity in the size of districts.

### BID OPENING

Bids will be opened within three weeks of the bid deadline. The date, time and location of the bid opening will be posted on the FDOEIM website. Bidders and their representatives may be present, but attendance is optional. The list of bidders and bid materials will be made available on the FDOEIM website.

A hard copy of the following forms printed from the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website must be received in the Office of Instructional Materials in the Florida Department of Education no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in June of the adoption year. The mailing address is the same as the one for bids.

### PUBLISHER REGISTRATION Form IM5

The FDOE requires bidders to register the names and addresses of representatives, agents or other persons retained for legal or other services to which there will be paid any salary, commission or royalty for representing the bidder in the state of Florida during the adoption period. The bidder should register these persons by completing the Publisher Registration using the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website.

Publishers should be advised that it is unlawful for any superintendent, school board member or any person officially connected with the government of or direction of public schools, or teacher thereof, to be involved in the sale or promotion of instructional materials [s. 1006.32, F.S.].

Publishers are required to keep the online registration up-to-date when changes occur.

### PUBLISHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT Form IM6

Publishers and their representatives shall submit to the Florida Department of Education a signed form developed by the Florida Department of Education acknowledging Florida's statutes associated with the instructional materials adoption process. These forms must be printed for each representative registered using the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website.

If additional representatives are added at any time during the adoption period, the publisher is required to submit signed acknowledgements for these individuals and update the online Publisher Registration in a timely manner.

### STANDARDS ALIGNMENT Form IM7

Bidders are required to provide standards alignments of submitted materials to Florida Standards listed in the course descriptions. To determine which alignments are required for each subject or course and to download the required form(s), refer to the Publisher Checklist and Course Call found at the FDOEIM website. The standards alignments must be submitted on the State of Florida Instructional Materials

Standards Alignment Form (Form IM7). The form must be uploaded using the Instructional Materials Publisher Bid Process website – Document Uploads.

Alignments must relate each desired outcome to the page(s) or location(s) in which the material is taught.

- The Standards Alignment document must be made available as part of the sample materials hosted and posted by the publisher.
- Materials bid must be searchable by the standards.

Failure to comply with the requirements for furnishing the Publisher’s Questionnaire and Standards Alignment(s) according to instructions and/or failure to meet the stated deadlines shall result in rejection of the bid.

Publishers for the K-5 ELA adoption will be expected to create a correlation document to include a listing of subject, with topic, and its corresponding text in the materials. Topic correlations should also include percentage of coverage for each topic. This document will be provided to reviewers as part of Standards Alignment for ELA.

#### PUBLISHER’S QUESTIONNAIRE Form IM8

The Publisher’s Questionnaire must be completed for each submission. If the submission is a series, then one questionnaire must be completed for the entire series. This required document includes a request for a description of the submitted program. This description must include information about the educational approach of the program, not merely list the materials submitted.

The Publisher’s Questionnaire may be prepared and printed using the Instructional Materials Publisher Registration and Bid Process website and must include the preparer’s original signature.

The Publisher’s Questionnaire will be made available electronically to each assigned state instructional materials reviewer.

#### WARRANTY OF PUBLISHER Form IM9 (Forms M, and/or Master Service Level Agreement)

Warranty Forms are required to be submitted for all major tool items designed for student use.

The Manufacturing Standards and Specifications for Textbooks (MSST) (2009 Revised Edition), developed by the State Instructional Materials Review Association (SIMRA), are the official minimum standards and specifications for Florida. Electronic media must meet or exceed these standards and specifications in order to be considered for adoption.

Bidders submitting electronic media (such as video or audiotapes or discs, and computer software on DVD or CD ROM) for adoption will use Form M (Statement of Publisher Submitting Electronic Media for Adoption). This form is incorporated into the MSST and is provided on the FDOEIM website. A Master Service Level Agreement (MSLA) must be submitted for online products/materials.

Publishers may also purchase a copy of the MSST (2009 Revised Edition) from the Advisory Commission on Textbook Specifications. Ordering information is available at <http://www.nasta.org>. A copy of the MSST is open for inspection in the Office of Instructional Materials in the Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400.

Publishers are encouraged to have their manufacturer or other person within the company who is familiar with the MSST complete the warranty form(s). Failure to comply with the requirements for furnishing Form M for electronic media, and/or an MSLA for online materials and/or failure to meet the stated deadline shall result in rejection of the bid.

### UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING Form IM12

Per s. 1006.29(3), F.S., all adopted instructional materials for students in kindergarten through grade 12 must be provided in an electronic or digital format. Digital or electronic materials that are bid should include commonly accepted presentation, navigation, study tool and assistive technology supports that allow the material to be accessible to all students. Bidders are therefore required to complete and submit the State of Florida Instructional Materials Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Form (Form IM12) for each major tool. The completed form must be uploaded using the Instructional Materials Publisher Bid Process website – Document Uploads and must be made available as part of the sample materials hosted and posted by the publisher.

Failure to comply with the requirements for furnishing the UDL form according to instructions and/or failure to meet the stated deadlines shall result in rejection of the bid.

### ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF FEES Form IM13

In accordance with s. 1006.29(1)(d), F.S., the department may assess and collect fees from publishers participating in the instructional materials approval process. The monies so collected will be used to pay a stipend to state instructional materials reviewers. For the purposes of this adoption, the department will require a fee of \$1000 for each material submitted by a publisher for review. The amount collected will be posted on the FDOEIM webpage. Any portion of the monies not spent during the adoption will be returned to publishers as soon as practicable following the completed adoption of state instructional materials.

Fees must be submitted as part of the sealed bid, no later than 5:00 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in June of the adoption year, in the form of a cashier's check (drawn on a bank, not the company account) or money order. Checks must be made out to the Florida Department of Education and must reference the company name as listed in the publisher registration. These fees must be a separate cheque in an envelope marked "Adoption Fees" and not combined with the bid deposit.

The FDOEIM office reserves the right to reject any bid that fails to comply with these fee requirements.

### STANDARDS ALIGNMENT ASSURANCE Form IM14

A signed Standards Alignment Assurance form may be submitted that covers all bid materials. Publishers signing this form attest that all bid materials will be updated to reflect any new content standards, which

may be adopted within the contract period, within nine months of their adoption by the State Board of Education. Those publishers not providing a signed Standards Alignment Assurance form may have their materials removed from the adopted list, and their contracts nullified, at the point that new content standards are adopted in the bid content area.

The published adopted list will reflect those publishers who have provided the Standards Alignment Assurance form to the department.

### PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING EVALUATION SAMPLES

Publishers and manufacturers of instructional materials, or their representatives, shall provide electronic access to sample copies to the FDOEIM office and each state instructional materials reviewer and subsequent district reviewer [s. 1006.38(2), F.S.]. Only the student and teacher editions of the major tool, in electronic or digital format as defined in s. 1006.29(3), F.S., will be reviewed for adoption, except during adoptions in which ancillary materials are instrumental to the content area. For these adoptions, the FDOEIM office will instruct the publishers as to the number of ancillary materials allowable for review.

All electronic samples must include the:

- Bid number;
- ISBN number;
- Title of the materials; and
- Instructions for accessing or viewing the materials.

Publishers are required to host the sample materials. Publishers are strongly encouraged to develop samples which are easily accessible and navigable by reviewers. Difficulty in accessing or navigating the samples may be taken into consideration by reviewers when making their recommendation for or against adoption. The publisher's name and title of products should be consistent on all adoption materials, and most importantly, the samples posted on the publisher's website. All sample materials must contain the bid number, ISBN number and title of materials for each bid.

Furthermore, samples which have recurrent problems or issues which hinder or prevent reviewers from accessing the materials may be disqualified from the bid process. The FDOEIM office expects samples and materials developed for adoption to be thoroughly tested and ready for review. Samples with issues which delay or prevent evaluation may be deemed as deficient and, therefore, not acceptable as the basis of review for adoption.

The Office of Instructional Materials will provide access to the reviewers via the FDOEIM online evaluation system.

Failure to comply with these sampling requirements shall result in rejection of the bid.

### MATERIALS TO SAMPLE

Publishers are required to host the sample materials which include: special instructions, written correlations, publisher's presentation, UDL document and samples of the major tool (student edition and teacher edition) in an electronic or digital format.

Additional sampling requirements may be specified by the FDOEIM office.

These samples must be in final form, i.e., must be the product that will be available to districts, and must be hosted and active for the duration of the adoption period as specified by the FDOEIM office.

### DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF SAMPLES

Publishers and manufacturers of instructional materials, or their representatives, shall electronically deliver fully developed sample copies or provide electronic access to sample copies of the student and teacher editions of the major tool to the FDOEIM office by 5:00 p.m. EDT on the second Friday in July of the adoption year.

### STATE APPROVAL OF MATERIALS

When all bids or proposals have been carefully considered, the Commissioner of Education shall select and adopt instructional materials from the list recommended by the state instructional materials reviewers. Under law, due consideration is given to the prices which have been quoted and to the reports of the state instructional materials reviewers. The Commissioner reserves the right to reject any or all bids or proposals. It may also call for new bids or proposals.

### INTEROPERABILITY REQUIREMENTS

The digital instructional materials bid for adoption must be interoperable on commonly available mobile and desktop digital devices, using industry standard protocols such as EPUB or IMS Learning Tools. The digital instructional materials must be accessible through a school districts' digital learning and technology infrastructure. Publishers are encouraged to provide digital materials that comply with IMS global standards, including the Learning Information Services specifications, in order to ensure interoperability with a wide variety of platforms.

### DISQUALIFICATION OF BIDS

Each year, some publishers are disqualified from participation because of failure to comply with the bidding requirements established in this document. It is highly recommended that publishers review carefully all the policies and procedures herein prior to submitting a bid. The FDOEIM office may waive minor formalities or irregularities in proposals received where such is merely a matter of form and not substance, and the correction or waiver of which is not substantially prejudicial to other bidders. Minor irregularities are defined as those which do not have adverse effects on FDOEIM interests and do not affect the price of the proposal by giving a bidder an advantage or benefit not enjoyed by other bidders.



## CONTRACTS

The term of adoption for instructional materials for the current adoption year will be posted on the FDOEIM Publisher Portal.

Upon agreement between the FDOE and the publisher, a contract may be extended or shortened for an additional one or two years, pursuant to s. 1006.34(3), F.S. A sample contract can be obtained on the FDOEIM Publishers Portal.

All contracts will require that the Florida Department of Education and each adopting district be provided with access to sample copies for the purpose of public inspection as provided in s. 1006.33(4), F.S.

## SURETY BOND AMOUNTS

Any publisher or manufacturer to whom any contract is let under this part must give bond in such amount, as the department requires, payable to the state, conditioned for the faithful, honest and exact performance of the contract [s. 1006.34(3), F.S.].

The surety bond amount is \$5,000 per single item, \$10,000 per series up to \$25,000.

The bond must provide for the payment of reasonable attorney's fees in case of recovery in any suit thereon. The surety on the bond must be a guaranty or surety company lawfully authorized to do business in the state; however, the bond shall not be exhausted by a single recovery but may be sued upon from time to time until the full amount thereof is recovered. The FDOEIM office may at any time, after giving 30 days' notice, require additional security or additional bond.

The form of any bond or bonds or contract or contracts under this part shall be prepared and approved by the FDOEIM office.

At the discretion of the FDOEIM office, a publisher or manufacturer to whom any contract is let under this part may be allowed a cash deposit in lieu of a bond, conditioned for the faithful, honest and exact performance of the contract. The cash deposit, payable to the Florida Department of Education, shall be placed in the Textbook Bid Trust Fund. The FDOEIM office may recover damages on the cash deposit given by the contractor for failure to furnish instructional materials, the sum recovered to inure to the General Revenue Fund.

A sample of the Publisher Surety Bond Form and Sworn Statement Form can be obtained on the FDOEIM Publishers Portal.

## APPEALS

Publishers may seek to challenge the adoption list or the adoption process. Pursuant to Chapter 120, F.S., and Rule 28-106, F.A.C., a company has twenty-one (21) days from receipt of the notice within which to request, by written petition, meeting the requirements set forth in Rule 28-106.201, F.A.C., an opportunity for a hearing. Any such petitions should be sent to Florida Department of Education, Room 1514 Turlington Building, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399.

## SUBSTITUTIONS

Publishers may request permission to substitute editions of adopted materials as follows:

- Publishers and manufacturers of instructional materials currently under adoption in Florida may request permission to substitute for any such instructional materials on a current contract.
- The substitution must be a revised edition which corrects or updates content; provided that the revised edition can be used satisfactorily with the currently adopted edition simultaneously in the same classroom; is identical, equal or superior to the specifications of the currently adopted edition; and, is available at no increase in price.
- As all materials bid must be available in electronic or digital format all substitution analyses will be performed on the electronic or digital materials. Each request shall be accompanied by access information to the currently adopted materials, access information to the revised materials, and access to an online copy of a detailed analysis of each change in the revised materials indicating precisely where the changes occur. This analysis shall include all changes in content, illustrations, embedded videos, hyperlinks and platform specifications. Information and logins for access to electronic or digital components must be sent to [IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org).
- Each request shall be filed in writing with the Director of Instructional Materials, who shall forward the request with a recommendation to the Bureau Chief of Standards and Instructional Support.
- Materials may not be substituted within the first six months of the contract.

Any substitution which is approved shall be effective on the date the action is taken by the FDOEIM office.

## CONTACT INFORMATION AND LINKS

### **Florida Department of Education**

Office of Instructional Materials  
325 W. Gaines Street – Suite 432  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
850-245-0425 Office  
850-245-0826 Fax

Director of Library Media & Instructional Materials – Cathy Seeds  
850-245-0903 Office

[Cathy.Seeds@fldoe.org](mailto:Cathy.Seeds@fldoe.org)

General Questions:

850-245-0425

[IMStaff@fldoe.org](mailto:IMStaff@fldoe.org)

Instructional Materials Website

<http://www.fldoe.org/academics/standards/instructional-materials>

Instructional Materials Publisher Portal

<https://app2.fldoe.org/BII/InstructMat/Publisher/Account/Login.aspx>

Instructional Materials Review Portal

<https://app2.fldoe.org/BII/InstructMat/Evaluation/Account/Login.aspx>

State of Florida Vendor Website

<https://flvendor.myfloridacfo.com/>