

# Affordable Learning PA Project

## *Apply to Become an Open Educational Resources (OER) Specialist*

The Affordable Learning PA project (ALPa), administered by Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. (PALCI), seeks applications and nominations for individuals interested in serving as one of four OER Specialists for this grant-funded project. This leadership position supports the ALPa project's efforts to build community and content among educational institutions at all levels throughout Pennsylvania and the region, with focus initially on colleges and universities.

We're seeking passionate leaders who will become experts in OER trends, information, and community building, to serve as trainers, advisors, and advocates for building OER and textbook affordability efforts. OER Specialists will be selected to represent the diversity of our institution types, e.g., private, public, and community colleges, and participate in regular meetings with the ALPa Steering Committee to plan strategy and events, and manage project progress. Together with ALPa Campus Partners and the Steering Committee, OER Specialists will advance the adoption of textbook affordability on campuses across the Commonwealth and the region.

This is a volunteer leadership position requiring a minimum two-year commitment with the possibility of renewing for an additional 2 years. Each OER Specialist will attend the 2018 Open Textbook Network Summer Institute (OTN SI) for training, then in coordination with project staff, perform train-the-trainer activity at academic institutions in support of project goals. We anticipate an initial effort of 8-10 hours per month following the OTN SI Training.

### About Affordable Learning PA

Affordable Learning Pennsylvania is made possible in part by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Department of Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, Governor. The project will build a community of practice among academic libraries to advance textbook affordability for our students through programs to create awareness, build expertise to lead OER initiatives, and promote best practices and collaboration in the community. PALCI will join the Open Textbook Network (OTN), enabling the ALPa Community to work together with librarians and faculty through the US in support of affordable learning initiatives and content at their institutions.

### Responsibilities

- Lead advocacy efforts for the adoption of Open Educational Resources
- Be a visible leader in supporting OER adoption and awareness
- Share expertise in open educational content

- Using a teach-the-teacher approach, teach Campus Partners to organize and conduct OER training for individual campuses
- Attend and participate in ALPa training, programs, and strategy meetings (some virtual participation possible)
- Consult with the ALPa Steering Committee for planning and development of programs as well as advocacy efforts.
- Travel occasionally to local/regional workshops
- Provide an annual activity report to ALPa Steering Committee

Qualifications/Commitments

- Experience or familiarity with implementing an open educational content initiative, participating in an institutional initiative or delivering OER training
- Possess working knowledge of open access and open education
- Demonstrated experience with teaching/training, especially with adult learners
- Able to attend ALPa-related meetings throughout the region
- Provide evidence of institutional support including release time to attend the Open Textbook Network Summer Institute in July 2018
- Provide evidence of institutional support including release time to attend an Open Textbook Network training program in Pennsylvania in September 2018.
- Have institutional support for a limited number of site visits. Site visits are no more than one day in length
- Demonstrated advocacy and leadership ability

Travel costs will be covered by the grant.