

## LiDA101 Research Question: How can open educational resources reduce educational inequalities?

The use of open educational resources can reduce the cost of University study. This is demonstrated by the findings of the Affordable Learning Georgia Initiative (ALG), where replacing costly textbooks with open educational resources has resulted in significant financial saving for students on participating programmes (Croteau, 2017). “Since ALG’s funded inception in Fiscal Year 2014-2015, all ALG programs have saved students a total projected 31.3 million dollars in textbook costs, affecting 219,343 students” (Affordable Learning Georgia’, n.d.). Croteau also notes that the cost of traditional text books is a significant burden on students, leading to students taking fewer courses, delaying their graduation, dropping out, or choosing not to participate in university-level education at all. Reducing the cost of education means more equitable access to education, giving financially disadvantaged students (single mothers, racial minority groups, and the disabled) a fairer chance to participate in higher education.

### References

- ALG Statistics, Research, and Reports - About / Affordable Learning Georgia. (n.d.). Retrieved 26 March 2018, from <https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/reports>
- Croteau, E. (2017). Measures of student success with textbook transformations: the Affordable Learning Georgia Initiative. *Open Praxis*, 9(1), 93–108. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5944/openpraxis.9.1.505>