

TEA confirms textbooks will be delayed

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Changes to the Texas Education Agency's online ordering system and a delay in state funding for textbooks will mean many new books won't arrive to districts by the start of the school year.

TEA doesn't expect books by the first week of school, which begins Aug. 24. The likely arrival date according to the agency is sometime in September.

The new ordering system is a result of the creation of the instructional materials allotment, which was part of Senate Bill 6 and passed during the special session. Previously, districts have ordered books from the state and the state paid the bill. Now each district will be provided with an instructional materials allotment they can use to buy books and other instructional materials.

Current orders for books and replacements should not be affected. Any later requests, however, are likely to be delayed. The state is holding off on submitting new orders until after Aug. 1.