



Photo Illustration by Erin Givartz/Index

Buying international editions of textbooks could reduce students' textbook costs by up to 35 percent.

## International editions offer low-priced textbook alternative

BY SLAVINA STOYANOVA  
for the Index

Buying international student edition textbooks online could save students at least a third on their book bills.

International student edition textbooks have content similar to that of regular textbooks but are much cheaper on several online retailer Web sites. International student edition textbooks normally can only be ordered online and are not available in most bookstores, including the Truman Bookstore.

"It is Truman Bookstore policy not to carry [international student edition textbooks] at the store," said Steve Pennington, manager of the Truman Bookstore.

Pennington said he didn't know about a price difference between regular textbooks and international student editions.

"I assumed that they are the same prices as the regular books," Pennington said. "We

don't have a discount for international students because we can't actually single out people."

Pennington said the only discount the Truman Bookstore gives is to students who work there.

Melanee Crist, assistant director of international student affairs, said she is not familiar with international student edition textbooks.

"I don't have an opinion about those editions because I don't have enough information," Crist said.

Crist said that none of the international students have asked about international student edition books but that she is interested in the textbooks because the prices of the student books are a big issue for the international students.

"I could do more research on that, and we would have to investigate that further," Crist said.

Crist said buying international student editions online is

a good idea for upperclassmen — if they know they will not modify their class schedules — but there might be disadvantages for freshmen.

International student and junior Katya Markova is in her second year in the United States, but she said she never has heard of international student edition textbooks.

"I am not sure of the reliability of the Web sites because I never have ordered textbooks online," Markova said.

However, Markova said she still might look into the option. "If it is worthy and the Web sites seem reliable, I would definitely order my textbooks for the next semester online," Markova said.

Markova said she did not think it was fair that students could not sell used international student edition books back to the Truman Bookstore.

Junior Abby Simons, however, said she knows about international student edition textbooks.

"I am not sure why they are so much cheaper than the regular ones, but I assume that it is because international students pay higher tuition," Simons said.

Simons said she never has ordered an international student edition textbook online, but one of her American friends has.

"I can't remember exactly the name of the Web site that my friend ordered her books online from, but it probably was from eBay," she said.

Simons said international student edition textbooks seem to be a good deal and that she would consider buying them in the future.

Senior Inga Storen said one of her friends has ordered her books online from both [abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com) and eBay.

"I would definitely have ordered all of my books online before, if I knew about it earlier," Storen said. "Just no one told me. For my next semester I will order my books from those Web sites."

## Air carrier wants out of contract

Kirkville looks for new carrier as Air Midwest continues service

BY RENEÉ CELLA  
Staff Reporter

Air Midwest, the air service provider for Kirkville Regional Airport, recently informed the Department of Transportation that it wanted out of its contract, but MoDOT is holding the company to the contract for now.

Air Midwest signed a two-year contract with Kirkville Regional Airport in November of 2006. Steve Bell, Kirkville community services director, said the company notified the Department of Transportation on Jan. 4 that it wanted to end its service at the airport in Kirkville within the next 90 days, knowing that it would not incur a penalty for breaking the contract.

Sophomore Nick Schlichtman, who plays on the Truman soccer team, said that if air service to Kirkville stops, his parents might not get to see him play soccer.

"My parents live 5 1/2 hours away," he said. "It would be rare for them to come see a [soccer] game. But with having an airport so close, my Dad can fly himself and my family up here in and hour or so, watch my game and then head back home."

However, Schlichtman's concerns might never become a reality — at least not because of cancelled air service.

"The Department of [Transportation] will make [Air Midwest] continue to provide air service at least until we find a

replacement," said David Hall, Kirkville Regional Airport manager. "They may even have to continue providing service until their contract is up."

Hall said Air Midwest, which is a subsidiary of Mesa Airlines, not only is trying to get out of its contract with Kirkville's airport but also is trying to drop several other small airports.

"[Air Midwest] is making a change in their service nationwide, so the fact that they are trying to get out of so many airport contracts has nothing to do with Kirkville or the other cities," Hall said. "It's just a change in company direction."

Even though Air Midwest will have to continue its service with Kirkville Regional Airport, the search for a replacement has begun.

"The Department of Transportation has put out a Feb. 29 deadline," Bell said. "We won't know until then what company has the highest bid. Usually companies wait until the end so they don't get out-bid."

However, there is an early frontrunner in the bidding over who will be the next to provide airline services for Kirkville.

"Great Lakes Airlines has shown early interest but seems to be on the fence," Hall said.

The new air service provider will be required to do what Air Midwest did in the past, which is to provide 12 Kirkville-to-Kansas City round-trip flights each week, Hall said.

Kirkville Regional Airport still is operational, and flights can be booked by visiting the airport's Web site at [kirkvillecity.com](http://kirkvillecity.com).

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